

# The International Communist Party

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WHAT DISTINGUISHES OUR PARTY – The line running from Marx to Lenin to the foundation of the Third International and the birth of the Communist Party of Italy in Leghorn (Livorno) 1921, and from there to the struggle of the Italian Communist Left against the degeneration in Moscow and to the rejection of popular fronts and coalition of resistance groups – The tough work of restoring the revolutionary doctrine and the party organ, in contact with the working class, outside the realm of personal politics and electoralist manoeuvres

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## Wall St.'s Trade War is Nothing New Finance, Currency, and Trade in the Conflict Between Dueling Imperialisms

On April 2, 2025 the Trump Administration announced its "Liberation Day" tariff scheme. The plan introduced a flat rate 10% tariff on foreign imports and higher retaliatory tariff on a selection of countries, especially China. In the days following the announcement, Wall Street's excitatory Trump bubble burst, with the U.S. stock markets indexes all crashing 15-20% year to date. Within two days S & P 500 companies logged a \$5-trillion loss, exceeding a two-day loss of \$3.3 trillion in March 2020. As Trump announced "it's a great time to buy!" and blamed the situation on "a little problem" in the bonds market where some got "a little out of line", the ruling class's Commander in Chief called for his fellow suits on Wall St. to rally and fall back in line on the march towards future super profits derived from a coordinated assault, squeezing out the competition while using manipulative market strategies & trade maneuvers backed by militaristic brigandry to maintain global financial dominance. As the liberals scream about the harm done to the "economy", they only worry about losing their share in the loot! For the middle classes and the various parasitic appendages dependent upon the super profits of US imperialism, they see only madness as they are expropriated by the big bourgeoisie and cut out of the fascist corporatist body like a cancer. Regardless, as more and more are forced to join the ranks of the proletariat kicking and screaming, they give sparks to the future re-energizing of the live wire of the class struggle.

Behind the tariff and the resulting stock market chaos is a larger strategy to apply economic pressure to force foreign countries into coming to the table around a future "multilateral" currency accord aimed at restructuring the international monetary order and alliance system by more directly subordinating countries within the U.S. orbit to its financial interest and militarist domination. The plan called the "Mar-a-Lago Accord", aims at securing the domination of U.S. finance capital and reviving U.S. industrial manufacturing by devaluing the dollar while re-establishing a new crypto currency or new gold standard, tying U.S. security guarantees directly to the holding of long term U.S. debts under a more direct centralized control of the U.S. Treasury Department. Behind the plans of the so-called Mar-a-Lago-Accord is a long standing playbook of US finance capital and how it has marshalled its forces to dominate and subordinate the various sub-imperialisms within the capitalist world. The "trade war" and its tariffs are merely one tool in the larger arsenal of the United States bourgeois and its dominant financial cartel who attempt to retain their global dominance and contain the emerging rival imperialism of China. As the capitalist system across the world faces increasing stagnation, lack of an ability to grow as a result of enlarging debts with GDP's not keeping pace, we can clearly see in these maneuvers the desperate ploys of a decaying and petrifying capitalist world order in its imperialist stage, whose rotten corpse will prove to be fertile grounds for the communist revolution that is inevitably to come.

### The End of Bretton Woods and the Gold Standard

With the desolation of all the rival world imperialisms and the mass slaughter of the European and Japanese proletariat at the end of the second world war, U.S. financial capital and its industrial monopolies exported their vast surplus into rebuilding Europe. With the establishment of the Bretton Woods system and the creation of the International Monetary Fund, the U.S. bourgeoisie consolidated its financial domination of the world. Through Bretton Woods, the associated countries' currencies were directly tethered to the U.S. dollar which was guaranteed by direct convertibility at a fixed rate of gold bullion set by the United States Treasury who at the time controlled two thirds of the world's gold supply. With the U.S. as the sole industrial power and the prevailing "workshop of the world" it entered into a period of enforcing its free trade policies to obtain open markets to serve as outlets to profitably unload its exploding industrial surplus.

After the war most of the Western European and Japanese industrial monopolies' capital were able to quickly recover. Benefited by the desolation of their respective proletarian defense organizations they quickly recovered themselves and by the 1950's their growth surpassed pre-war levels. As the European industries and their associated imperialism began to revive, throughout the 1950s Washington's sustained increased deficit spending to finance loans, aid, and troops for allied regimes, printing vast amounts of monies to finance its imperial domination eventually leading to a glut of dollars in circulation. For decades the U.S. kept the price of gold pegged at \$35 an ounce; however, as the deficit spending increased, and trade grew among the other states including the development of foreign currency markets, the bourgeoisie began to recognize the dollar as overpriced. Hungry to regain their former imperial independence, the Japanese and Europeans began bucking out from under the U.S. finance by pulling their gold from the Treasury reserves. As

German and Japanese industry rose to contest U.S. export supremacy by the late 1960's the United States was no longer the totally dominant economic power it had been in the previous two decades. When the U.S. economy turned over for the first time in the post-war era from running an export surplus to a trade deficit, fears began to pulsate throughout the ranks of the U.S. industrial monopolists as they realized their status was in jeopardy. It wouldn't be long until the slogans of "free trade" were forgotten in pursuit of protectionism to subordinate the developing German and Japanese imperialism.

To reverse the competitiveness of U.S. industries, moves to introduce protectionism began in 1962 with limits imposed on imports of cotton textiles from Japan. As part of the "Southern strategy" in the 1968 presidential election campaign, Nixon promised further limits on imports of textiles that competed with domestically produced goods in the South. The Nixon administration focused heavily on export promotion as a vehicle for industrial growth and job creation. The idea that a lower foreign exchange value of the dollar could bolster domestic industries was widely discussed. In 1969, the United States negotiated export restraints with European countries to limit their exports of iron and steel products. Congress was soon overrun with proposals to limit imports even further. In fear of importing U.S. inflation, Germany "voluntarily" agreed to unhitch from the dollar and appreciate its currency in 1969; however, Japan refused. In 1970, congress imposed quotas on imported clothing and footwear from Japan. Amid this one sided trade war, the United States additionally focused on Japan and West Germany as countries whose currencies should be revalued. Not only did the United States have growing trade deficits with both countries, but Japanese exports threatened powerful domestic industries in textiles and electronics and the Germans iron and steel. A revaluation of the currency due to the manner in which trade was conducted in dollars would devastate the competitiveness of the two export economies. A dollar devaluation would also help with the growing government deficit as U.S. Treasury Debt is paid back in the USD.

Amid this discussion in the U.S., mounting criticism of the old imperialism against the "unfair" U.S. monetary and trade policy grew, amid fears of a U.S. default on its debts. More and more began to turn in their dollars for gold, only deepening the concerns about the treasuries ability to pay back all reserve dollars. By 1970 the U.S. held under 16% of international reserves. The first six months of 1971, assets for \$22 billion fled the U.S. In May 1971, a study completed by the Treasury Department concluded that a foreign exchange crisis was inevitable as the dollar was overvalued by 10% to 15%. The Treasury stated that the U.S. should 'take advantage of the present crisis to achieve (i) a lasting improvement in the balance-of-payments position of the United States, (ii) a more equitable sharing of the responsibilities for world security and economic progress, and (iii) a basic reform of the international monetary system". The memo put forward "the following measures as negotiating leverage: (i) suspension of gold convertibility; (ii) imposition of trade restrictions; (iii) diplomatic and financial intervention to frustrate foreign activities which interfere with the attainment of our objectives; and (iv) reduction of the US military presence in Europe and Japan. It is from this exact same play book that U.S. imperialism would take notes in 1985 and again today in 2025. We are reminded of what we said in issues 19-21 of "Il Programma Comunista" (The Communist Program) of 1917, we described the monetary crisis that had erupted at the time: "In the whirlwind of currency and faltering bourgeois idols, the collapse of the capitalist system looms on the horizon."

In August of 1971, France sent a warship into harbor at New York, retrieving dollar reserves for gold. Days later Nixon unilaterally imposed 90-day wage and price controls, and a 10% tariff on all imports. Most significantly he officially ended the gold standard by announcing the dollars would no longer be convertible into gold, effectively ending the Bretton Woods system by effecting a U.S. default on its debts by torpedoing the currency while making away with what the rest of the world thought was its gold safely locked away in Fort Knox.

As a result, the U.S. dollar plummeted by a third which additionally gave rise to enormous speculation against the dollar with the Mark and Yen appreciating significantly. By January 1973 the stock market had the largest crash since the Great Depression with the DOW Jones Industrial Average losing 45% of its value, the London Stock Exchange's FT 30, which lost 73% of its value during the crash. Although West Germany's market was the fastest to recover, returning to the original nominal level within eighteen months, it did not return to the same real level until June 1985.

The United Kingdom did not return to the same market level until May 1987, whilst the United States did not see the same level in real terms until August 1993, over twenty years after the 1973-74 crash began. Following the 1973-1975 recession, the United States experienced a significant wave of corporate consolidation.

The post-1970s era saw a stronger concentration in services, retail, and wholesale and particularly in the financial sector. A number of large banks consolidated in 1974 following the crash, forming Shearson Hayden Stone. This merger was part of a series that led to the creation of Shearson Lehman Brothers, and its transformation into the world's fourth largest investment bank. Its collapse would later instigate the 2008 global financial crisis and the subsequent "Great Recession".

### Rise of the Petrodollar & Fortification of U.S. Finance Against the Rising Corpse of the Old Imperialisms

By the spring of 1973 all the major currencies had been unfixed from the dollar and the markets continued with high volatility. The economic situation was exacerbated with the United States backing Israel in the Yom Kippur War. The subsequent OPEC oil embargo in October led to a massive inflationary spike across the world. European countries began to run up large deficits to afford increased energy prices which ultimately resulted in the collapse of their finance markets. The 1976 Pound Sterling crisis led to the humiliation of Britain who went "cap in hand" to the IMF for a loan after the failure of their currency which had formerly been the world's reserve currency until British imperialism had nearly bankrupted itself in the course of the World Wars. The instability of global finance after the ending of the Bretton-Woods system would begin to calm as the crashing European industries and currencies left the stronger U.S. finance and its industrial monopolies the last standing amid the bloodbath of its own creation. It's financial domination and position as the world reserve currency further consolidated through the initiation of the petrodollar recycling system with OPEC and then enforced upon Europe though continued threats of renegeing on NATO "security guarantees" and implementing tariff and currency manipulation policies, the U.S. using the fear of unleashing the Russian bear on Europe, it's Israeli attack dog in the Middle East and the CCP under Mao on Japan to coerce submission of its protectorate "allies".

The system was established in 1973 when Nixon sent Kissinger to negotiate a deal with the Saudis to end the oil embargo. Amid the U.S. menacing invasion and the Saudi threats of a salt the earth strategy to burn its own oil fields amid the ongoing Yom Kippur War. The Saudis agreed with Kissinger instead to become a dependent economic protectorate of U.S. imperialism to avoid the mutually assured destruction of their state on the one side and global oil production on the other. The deal guaranteed that the Saudis would only sell oil in U.S. dollars and in return they would receive military equipment, training and a "security guarantee" provided by the same United States military who had just threatened invasion. Critically, the deal also established that Saudi oil export surplus could only be reinvested in U.S. denominated assets, U.S. treasury bonds.

With the U.S. as the biggest purchaser of oil it created a "recycling" system whereby oil which was bought in dollars would then have its surplus reinvested into American bond debt purchases. The bonds bought with dollars would provide a stable interest return to the oil producers, while giving to the U.S. the lionshare of the actual surplus in the forms of dollars. The U.S. government could then use those dollars to fund itself, often funneling it right back into U.S. corporations hands through government contracts. So long as the U.S. continued to pay it's interest while maintaining its protectionist racket "security guarantees" and successfully using its military to terrorize the inferior imperialisms into submission, it could continue to balloon it's debts while delivering super-profits to U.S. corporations, thus never really having any interest in actually "paying off" it's national debt, but every interest in defaulting periodically when possible and necessary. As the backward Arab monarchy fearing its own revolutions at home unable to stand up to U.S. military might contented themselves with their new pensions under it's imperial umbrella, the deal was quickly followed by other OPEC countries, although they did not all get the same security guarantees as the mountain of corpses left by U.S. interventionism in the region has demonstrated. As all countries in the world imported oil from OPEC, all foreign banks now needed dollars to purchase them, this became a major pillar in preserving the status of the U.S. as the global reserve currency.

The U.S. effort to devalue the dollar in 1971, also forced countries to make a choice: either hold dollars (which could decline in value), reinvest those dollars in U.S. assets, like bonds, which offered a set interest rate return rate or attempt to establish a currency alternative to the dollar and risk facing U.S. military aggression. When Japan began considering a shift into gold or Deutsche marks by late 1973 U.S. Treasury officials told Japan that failure to support the dollar would be seen as hostile, potentially resulting in trade retaliation or military friction. By 1978 Bun-

desbank in Germany wanted to stop buying dollars and let the D-mark float higher, considering potentially diversifying reserves away from dollars. The U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and President Jimmy Carter sent a memo that Germany must support the dollar or face major consequences for NATO cooperation and U.S. German trade relations. U.S. officials warned of political instability in NATO if economic coordination failed. The Bundesbank resumed dollar purchases, despite domestic opposition. During the Volcker Shock 1979-1982, the Fed raised interest rates to nearly 20% to combat inflation. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan demanded that European central banks hold onto their dollar and treasury reserves. Europe was warned that failure to cooperate could lead to U.S. disengagement from NATO commitments, trade restrictions or tariffs, currency war dynamics.

The subsequent demand for dollars to pay for energy and the stable demand for U.S. treasuries as a comparatively safe haven investment, guaranteed by the U.S. military's constant threats to destabilize the world and thus the other countries currencies, led to a situation whereby in the year 2000, 70% of all foreign exchange reserves were held in dollars. Thus through forcing purchase of US bonds and holding of dollar reserves the U.S. was able to ensure that the sun didn't set on the U.S. empire. With the threat of the rising industrial monopolies transforming into their own contending finance capitals supplanted by being forced into the petrodollar system, the return to an upward value of the dollar was once again more beneficial for U.S. finance capital.

Just as the new petroleum world order was taking shape, the 1972 visit between Nixon and Mao foreshadowed Nixon pulling out of Vietnam and abandoning the U.S. proxy state in South Vietnam in favor of the new friend China against the old foe of Moscow, just as they threatened to abandon the European bourgeoisie to the forces of Soviet imperialism, the Japanese bourgeoisie with no military sat in fear of Mao. Thus began the process of establishing trade relations between the U.S. and China and by the late 1980's U.S. corporations would begin offshoring production to the cheap Chinese labor markets and by 1988 Chinese exports to the U.S. totaled \$40 billion. As

U.S. imperialism began to spread its tentacles into the belly of China, amid the high inflation and rising interest rates from the Fed, an all out attack was orchestrated against the American worker who for a century had enjoyed consistently rising wages and standards of living always historically large when compared to the rest of the world since colonial times. As high wage factory jobs began to disappear in the 1980's-1990's cheap imports from East Asia, encouraged by a strong dollar ensured standards of living remained relatively stable. As the emerging tech industries began to develop they would extract super profits from Chinese proletarians as the children of U.S. workers were flocked into colleges under the promise of obtaining high wage jobs at the costs of accruing more private debts, only today to find these jobs too disappearing, but before we investigate the so called "Mar-A-Lago" accord we must understand the Plaza Accord.

### The Plaza Accord & The Financial Entombment of Japanese Industry

From 1980 to 1985, the dollar had appreciated by about 50% against the currencies of the next four biggest economies at the time. The high dollar price brought in high yields for U.S. finance but threatened its industrial monopolies who at the time were still dependent on U.S. labor for its manufacturers. By the mid-1980's German industry continued to find difficulty in competing on international markets, much of its shipbuilding, part of its steel and most of its photographic production to cheaper competition in the United States, & Japan. However, Japanese industry began to aggressively climb out of its relative slump and moved into exports of higher production value commodities. As high quality and cheap Japanese automobiles began flooding international and domestic markets the U.S. industrial monopolies once again felt threatened.

An alliance of manufacturers and farmers responded with a concerted campaign requesting protection against foreign competition. Major players included grain exporters, the U.S. automotive industry, heavy American manufacturers

### May Day 2025 Leaflet

The following leaflet was prepared for distribution at May Day demonstrations throughout the world.

THE CAPITALIST ORDER PREPARES FOR WAR BETWEEN NATIONS; THE PROLETARIAT MUST PREPARE FOR WAR BETWEEN CLASSES! ONLY REVOLUTIONARY DEFEATISM OF THE WORKING CLASS CAN STOP IMPERIALIST WAR; DOWN WITH NATIONALISM, LONG LIVE WORKING-CLASS INTERNATIONALISM

Ominous clouds are gathering over vast areas of the world, while in others, the storm of war has already been raging for some time. In the world, dominated by the laws of capital, 56 conflicts of varying size and intensity are taking place, involving 90 countries: from Ukraine to Palestine, from Congo to Yemen, from Myanmar to Sudan.

The world economy stagnates, overwhelmed by the overproduction of goods, and any attempt to restore its momentum runs up against the irreconcilable contradictions of this now anti-historic production system.

The abandonment of free trade, which has characterized the past decades, and the return to protectionism and economic nationalism, are further proof that the regime of capital is outliving itself. On the one hand, protectionism will further increase the exploitation of the proletariat, and on the other it will intensify the struggle for the division of markets.

The trade war between imperialisms is a preview of open war, as happened in both world wars of the last century, the first of which was stopped throughout Europe by the victory of the proletarian revolution of October 1917 in Russia, a shining historical example of how the war machine of capital can be broken.

The United States, the world's leading economic and military power, is reacting to the crisis with protectionism and threatening to deploy its enormous war machine to contain its global rival, China. The People's Republic of China – the world's second most powerful capitalist nation, usurping the title of socialist, as the Stalinist USSR once did – continues with ever greater difficulty, in a context of general economic crisis, its industrial and military growth, keeping a low profile to gain positions at a commercial and diplomatic level, while preparing for confrontation also on the military level.

In an attempt to get out of the industrial recession, the European imperialists rearm, under the pretext of responding to the Russian threat, but their rearmament will be directed primarily against the proletariat, who are called upon today to make sacrifices and tomorrow to go to the front to defend the interests of their masters.

A united Europe – impossible under capitalism – will be torn apart by a Third Imperialist World War, as occurred in the First and Second, with the various nation states siding with either the American or Chinese imperialists.

The worldwide arms race will require the mobilization of huge resources, taking away from hospitals, schools, wages and pensions. In South Korea the bourgeoisie are working to introduce a 64-hour work week, while some countries are already considering reintroducing compulsory military service; Poland intends to conscript the entire male population for periods of military training.

The working class cannot fight decisively and uncompromisingly to defend its living and working conditions without challenging the national economy, which is nothing more than capitalism. This battle must be fought not only in every country, but within the union movement, which today is mostly dominated by unions subservient to national bourgeois interests. Workers must struggle against the openly bourgeois or opportunist leadership within the unions, who have historically been complicit in the march of workers for the defense of their fatherland, and will continue the same tradition when the mass graves of tomorrows Third Imperialist War will be dug and filled with the corpses of the proletariat. In the United States the president of the United Auto Workers union – has hailed the protectionist tariffs that increase the prices of goods as a victory for the working class. In Italy, the secretary general of the Italian General Confederation of Labor led a demonstration in favor of European rearmament, in other words, the slaughter of proletarians.

A real struggle for significant wage increases, for better and safer working conditions, for the reduction of working hours also becomes a struggle against rearmament spending, the only true opposition to the militarization of the economy and society - effectively preparing the proletariat for the revolutionary struggle for communism with the authentic Marxist tradition, represented by the international class party as its instrument of emancipation.

The impersonal historical force and necessity of communism, a new form of production that is already mature and pressing in the belly of the capitalist monster, will once again present itself as the only true possible alternative: either bourgeois war for the preservation of this system of production or international communist revolution.

TODAY AS WAS TRUE YESTERDAY, WAR ON WAR  
THE ENEMY OF THE WORKING CLASS IS IN ITS OWN COUNTRY  
PROLETARIANS OF THE WORLD UNITE!



of commodities from metals to fossil fuel to agriculture. However the balance of gold power is still skewed in favour of the G7 countries, which together hold 17,500 tonnes or 49% of the total global reserves. The revaluation of American gold reserves to market levels could also substantially increase the value of gold internationally thereby closing the window of opportunity for BRICS countries to build their gold reserves which they were able to do at suppressed prices until recently.

Thus we are seeing a global scramble in the classic imperialist style for direct control of raw minerals and gold as the financial blocs hurriedly build their reserve hordes to ensure their monetary systems dominance over global trade, amid an intensifying arms race and active war between the sub-imperialisms of the two states already breaking out all over the world. For U.S. finance they continue to seek the full domination of the world under Trump, even if he claimed just like Nixon to be executing his policies in the name of ending the empire and averting world war. For the clever bourgeoisie who seek to manipulate the various levers of the economy apply more and less leverage here and there to get the desired outcome their economic system continues to steam forward in one cataclysmic direction.

## Attacks on Migrants in the U.S. Are Also Meant to Repress The Working Class

In the context of the wave of persecution, detention, and deportation of migrants carried out by the US government, a clear pattern of selective political repression has begun to emerge against labor leaders and activists who promote the release of detained migrants, and even activists who have opposed the massacre of Palestinians. Just as the media has reported on the suspension of visas, detention, and deportation of foreign students who have expressed solidarity with the Palestinians (e.g., Mahmoud Khalil and Rumeysa Ozturk), the anti-migrant wave has also been used to arrest union leaders, including Alfredo “Lelo” Juárez, a union leader for agricultural workers who is currently imprisoned at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Processing Center in Tacoma. Also detained in Tacoma is Lewelyn Dixon, a laboratory technician at the University of Washington and member of the SEIU 925 union, who has a permanent residence card and has been living in the United States for 50 years.

ICE is harassing and intimidating people without presenting warrants. In doing so, it is joining forces with the Border Patrol and thus acting jointly as part of the repressive apparatus of the bourgeois state.

On March 27, the Washington State Labor Council, which represents all Washington unions, organized a demonstration in front of the detention center in Tacoma, demanding the release of Alfredo Juárez and Lewelyn Dixon.

What is at stake is the maintenance and deepening of the super-exploitation of agricultural workers, migrant or not, subjected to long hours and job instability in temporary contracts. We will also find the same situation among construction workers and workers in general. This offensive of exploitation against the working class can only be stopped through unity, grass-roots organization, and mobilization against the capitalist bosses and the government. Workers must build a combative, class-based union movement that breaks with any differentiation among its members based on race, nationality, occupation, or any other artificial excuse used to divide the working class. The working class is one and fights for the same demands throughout the world. And this movement of struggle must ignore the calls of Democrats, Republicans, and all the politicians who seek votes to get into the bourgeois parliament. Only the resumption of the class struggle of the workers, with revolutionary leadership, will lay the foundations for the true emancipation from capitalist barbarism.

## The Carcass of Collective Bargaining

In March 2025, President Donald Trump issued an executive order that effectively revoked collective bargaining for a significant portion of the federal workforce. Claiming “national security concerns” and invoking a seldom-used provision of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, the order targeted agencies including the Departments of Defense, Justice, State, Veterans Affairs, Health and Human Services, and the Environmental Protection Agency. This action impacted approximately one million workers or 67% of federal employees and 75% of unionized federal workers. This is largest assault on the established unions since the breaking of the 1981 Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization strike by the Reagan Administration, which culminated in their decertification and opened a period of mass membership declines across the unions from which they still have not recovered. Thus, the recent decree by the Trump administration abolishing the so-called “collective bargaining rights” for most federal workers has been met with cries of outrage from the boss-linked leadership within the unions and the legalist champions of the capitalist state’s “fairness.” But the Marxist party knows collective bargaining is but a weapon of the bourgeoisie, an instrument forged in the counter-revolutionary furnace of class collaboration. The National Labor Relations Board, like its counterparts in every capitalist country, exists not to empower the proletariat but to domesticate it, to enshrine its subjugation within the sterile confines of legality and procedure. The “right to bargain” is the right to negotiate the terms of exploitation, never its abolition.

The Trump decree does not represent a break with democracy, but its fulfillment. For when capital no longer requires the mask of conciliation, it discards it without ceremony. The illusion of neutrality is cast aside, and the state reaffirms itself as the executive committee of the ruling class. The mis-leaders of labor weep not because exploitation has deepened which they accept but because their privileged role as mediators has been threatened.

It is not for the communists to defend collective bargaining, nor the unions which enforce it. It is for the party to expose their function, to unmask the lie that the working class can secure dignity and peaceful co-existence through negotiation with its enemy. The obliteration of collective bar-

gaining amid the massive cuts to the capitalist states bureaucracy and the expropriation of the middle classes are all part of the deepening crisis of capital which will one day obliterate the last vestiges of the parasitic labor aristocracy and return the masses to the grounds of the class struggle. The federal worker must not demand the return of bargaining tables, but prepare for the return of the generalized strike and the class union.

## Toward the General Strike, Towards the Class Union

It seems that after a period of routing from the domination of capital and the prevailing counter-revolutionary forces, the course of global capitalism and the increased consolidation of the international bourgeoisies—as well as their bloody confrontations—are continuing to push the proletariat into a renewed combative urgency. All around the globe, workers are calling for and wielding the mighty general strike. From Argentina, Greece, Belgium, Morocco and beyond, the international proletariat is beginning to remember how to move its muscles in response to capital’s increasing pressure.

Throughout the history of the proletariat’s struggle, general strikes in which workers organized through various unions collectively withold their labor-power in order to overwhelm the bourgeois repressive apparatus and force concessions by paralyzing the reproductive cycle of capital in a number of industries appear like great battles within the tapestry of capitalist epoch that now hang in empty halls of the militant American Labor movement.

One notable general strike for the 8 hour workday (still just a wish for the number of American workers who must work two or more jobs or extended overtime to pay living expenses and feed their families) is of course the famous 1886 Chicago strike that brought out hundreds of thousands of striking workers together in song and solidarity, only to be remembered for its bloody end as the Haymarket Affair. This event cemented the first of May as what is known as “International Workers’ Day.” Born out of a bloody struggle for a reduction in the working day, it has served as a unifying point for workers around the world to reflect on their class history and celebrate the hard earned and necessary gains of the working class as well as look forward towards the demands yet won.

That is why as we approach this May Day, 139 years after the Haymarket Affair, we must recognize that conditions for the international proletariat are still indeed poor, that the global workers’ movement is still incredibly weak, and that at this very moment proletarians are being slaughtered in the violent tremors that are mere previews for the great imperialist wars to come.

The overproduction crises of imperialist capitalism can only worsen and worsen, resolving to continuously consolidate into fascistic and social-democratic ends that are but desperate measures for the bourgeoisies to defend their home markets and their dwindling rates of profit, subordinating the laboring masses through either open tyranny of the bourgeois state or obscured through the treacherous veil of “democracy.”

With the slow recovery of the class union movement, workers in the US are still largely organized through the regime unions, who are completely subordinate to the interests of capital, if organized at all(national union density sitting under 10%), and because of this, American workers are extremely limited in exercising broad actions across various industries for their common demands and defending themselves against the bourgeoisie.

This deficiency in class coordination is especially apparent with the recent boycotts and “economic blackouts”, which leverage no force against the bourgeoisie, do not forward any collective demands of the class, and therefore cannot “win” anything in particular. It will not be “selective consumerism” that will free the proletariat from capitalism but the abolition of commodity production in general!

In order for workers to defend themselves from the ever increasing exploitation of the bourgeoisie, the coordination of general strikes can exert pressure where it hurts the capitalists the most: their profits.

### An Idle Sword in the Stone

America has not seen a true general strike since the 50,000 worker Oakland General Strike of 1946, largely due to the creation of the infamous Taft- Hartley Act enacted by the consolidated American bourgeoisie coming out of the second great imperialist war in a necessary effort to quell class tensions during the wave of strikes of 1945-1946. Having codified the “appropriate” means to workers’ struggle within the limits of their legal apparatus with the creation of the NLRB earlier in the 30s, the bourgeoisie realized that solidarity strikes and wildcat strikes were far too disruptive for labor peace and decidedly revoked the “privilege” at their leisure.

A far cry from the general strikes of yesterday, American workers today are now fighting to remove ridiculous anti-worker “No-strike Clauses” from their contracts that continue to reduce the struggle for the rank-and-file to mere business arrangements between the boss-linked, business union leadership and the company exploiters. Being that all profit is the expropriated surplus-value of the exploited worker, withholding labor-power via a strike is the proletariat’s only actual coercive force they can leverage against the capitalists, most other actions surmounting to the equivalent of faith in the benevolence of the capitalists through unfavorable legal means.

The strikes of today are now relegated to conditional responses to Unfair Labor Practices(per NLRB rules) or in the periods between the old sacred contract and the new sacred contract for often little real gains, with many picket lines being hollow “protests” that aim to appeal to bourgeois political representatives or the heartstrings of the bosses, rather than militant strikes that really disrupt production and the circulation of capital in meaningful ways.

These strikes are still very noble and useful in their own basic way, as workers are still able to win small concessions like Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) and at the very least damper the rapid diminishing of wages compared to the vast majority of unorganized workers who suffer as lone individuals in their shared class

plight. The hard lessons from the repression of the bourgeois politicians, as well as the collaboration and outright sabotage from the misleaders of the regime unions, are fundamental courses in the long curriculum within the “schools of class struggle”, but even these basic legal defensive strikes that abide by the bourgeoisie’s rules are in the process of being dismantled.

In July of 2023, the US Supreme Court made a decisive rule in the case of Glacier Northwest, Inc. v. International Brotherhood of Teamsters, that unions can be held liable for “intentionally causing economic harm to employers.” Against the mighty boss who holds their entire livelihood in their hands, the proletariat, who must sell their labor-power like piecemeal slavery well beyond the necessary means for their reproduction to line the pockets of the slave master, mustn’t dare turn the tables and in turn hurt the robber baron!

We see the continual attempts of fascistic incorporation of the trade unions into the larger body of the bourgeois state, increasingly making the necessary economic defense organizations for the workers into appendages of the bourgeois political parties, suggesting to workers that “your power to improve your conditions is found with the ballot!” for the very same parties that the oppressive boss also votes for.

If workers are to have any hope in achieving better conditions, it can only be backed by the genuine use of economic coercion, not by the endorsements of this bourgeois politician over that one, only through withholding that precious labor-power that all of bourgeois enterprise rests dearly upon.

### Who Can Wield It?

Following the “stand-up” strikes in 2028, Shawn Fain and the United Auto Workers (UAW) are calling for all American unions to align their contracts to expire simultaneously on May 1st 2028, International Workers’ Day, alongside the expiration of the UAW contracts of the Big Three carmakers that came out of these strikes. The exact nature of how this supposed “general strike” is being organized, who is organizing it, what are the demands, are all largely a mystery. So far some unions have passed supportive resolutions towards this call such as the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) and American Federation of Teachers (AFT), and the American Postal Workers Union (APWU); however, the opportunist UAW leadership has refused to commit any serious resources or union staff to making it a reality.

The seemingly renewed combativity of the union leaders in working towards the return of the general strike comes at a time when the bourgeoisie, under Trump’s leadership, has begun sweeping attacks on unionized workers; including removing “bargaining rights” from federal workers, including the thousands of Transportation Security Administration (TSA) workers organized through the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), with the stroke of a pen, claiming that they pose a “threat to national security.”

The AFGE leadership has responded that they will hold mass “protests” across the country to demand a stop to the “biggest attack on the labor movement in history”, emphasizing again the erroneous need for “democracy” to save the working class from “undemocratic” attacks. Having already long revealed itself as a pitfall for the working class, democracy, as a nebulous field of inter-class cooperation, is always and tirelessly at work undermining the conquest of the proletariat. A portion of the bourgeoisie are in fact ardent supporters of both unions and “union democracy” if it means that the worker can negotiate insignificant economic demands without forming a revolutionary class political consciousness.

There are no legal means to defend these workers, what they need is the collective action and support of a class union to gain what was so easily taken from them and also to push for more.

In 2018, when teachers in West Virginia organized through the American Federation of Teachers(AFT) and National Education Association(NEA) were met with pathetic wage increases by way of the traditional “legal” method, they defied the state law and their union bureaucrats and held a historic strike, despite official leaderships condemnations, that amounted to improvements of their conditions. The strike itself was a momentous achievement, demonstrating that rank-and-file workers can indeed organize mass strikes despite being against innumerable “legal” odds in the modern era.

In a recent article by the Richmond Virginia Caucus of Rank-and-file Educators (VCORE) titled “When Federal education funding stops, so does our labor”, the call for a general strike of educators was made: “now more than ever, we need the leaders of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the National Education Association (NEA) to jointly call for a general strike of K12 public education workers, whether unionized or not.”

Only a mass, all-industry strike can effectively forward the demands of the teachers and the militant section of teachers understand this. This is true for the broader range of interests for the working class wishing to achieve specific demands that are unique to the class as a whole such as wages, hours, and conditions. Without class unionism, workers are not only divided by craft, industry, and geographical region, they also hold little power against their common oppressors, fighting every uphill battle against the bourgeoisie as a mere fraction against a powerful whole.

Especially important is the elevation of the national worker struggle to the realm of international solidarity of all workers, rejecting the defense of “one’s own national economy” over another’s; However, the so-called “most progressive” of the business unions, like the United Auto Workers under the leadership of Shawn Fain, openly supports Trump’s protectionist tariffs as “good for American labor.” Going on to defend not only the tragedy that was the mass slaughter of proletariats in the second imperialist World War which he openly celebrates the history of UAW role in building the “anti-fascist” bombers for, but also the exploitation of labor-power from the workers at home used to fuel the war economy, suggesting that a tragedy such as an imperialist world war is actually an economic boon for the American proletariat!

“People forget about the arsenal of democracy and how excess capacity in this country was used to support the war effort and delivered a victory in World War II for America.” (Shawn Fain on CNN. April 3, 2025)

Similarly, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, who have asked the bourgeoisie to enact tariffs on Mexican beer imports to protect American beer industries, also ask “would you trust China with aircraft repairs? United Airlines does”, harkening back to the IBT’s long history of conservative and McCarthyist nationalism, playing into the “anti-communist” tropes of the American bourgeoisie against their Chinese imperialist rivals and pitting exploited workers of one nation against exploited workers of another.

There is absolutely nothing for the proletariat to gain by defending the interest of their national bourgeoisie. In 1976, our party wrote:

“A class-based trade union policy must defend neither that nor the other aspect of the bourgeois economy because its aim is the emancipation of the working class, the abolition of the wage-labour system. What then should be the direction of a truly proletarian trade union? It is quickly said: the workers must not take on any sacrifice, and if their refusal to do so will be the ruin of the capitalist economy, then ruin it is.” (La via del sindacato di classe. Il Partito Comunista, n. 25 1976)

The trade union leaders, being incapable of wielding internationalism as a principle above the defense of their national economy, are also incapable of wielding the “general strike” in any meaningful direction beyond collaborative bourgeois reforms and are infinitely absent of any “revolutionary” potential.

However, as a step towards uniting industries into collectively organized action through what is still the main organizational bodies in the US, the trade unions, the militant minority of class unionists in all bodies of struggle, who need to form their own international coordinations outside of the regime union leadership, is further aided in their efforts. These formations must struggle to steer the general strike continuously in the direction of winning common demands for the international class and away from the collaborative abysses of the business-union boss-linked leadership.

### Who Is Worthy?

Although the general strike as a tactical maneuver has established itself as a powerful weapon in the class arsenal, it has also given rise to the error that the general strike itself is to be considered such a “revolutionary action” that it can allow unions to stand-in for the class political unity.

The “Syndicalists” or “workerists” organizations, forgoing the class party, instead defend the “intuition of the workers” who, by using direct action to advance their practical demands through their union activity, hold the only necessary step towards class liberation, assuming the individual consciousness of the independent workers will carry on the upheaval of class society frictionless against the prevailing forces of counter-revolution. To them, only the great “general strike to end all general strikes” is needed to break the chokehold of the bourgeoisie and the flower of socialism will begin to bloom within the shell of the old society. Our party replies:

“With the general strike alone, with the tactic of folded arms, the working class cannot achieve victory over the bourgeoisie. The proletariat must take on the armed uprising. Whoever understands that will also have to grasp that an organized political party is necessary and that formless workers’ unions are not sufficient.

The revolutionary syndicalists often talk about the great role of the determined revolutionary minority. Well, a truly determined minority of the working class, a minority that is Communist, that wishes to act, that has a programme and wishes to organize the struggle of the masses, is precisely the Communist Party.”(Theses on the Role of the Communist Party in the Proletarian Revolution. 1920)

The important tasks that are required to decisively apprehend the critical moments of capitalism in its death throes, cannot be improvised from a group of like-minded “radicals” within the union struggle, but can only be grasped from the collective organism of the class party engaged in practical and theoretical application of the scientific communist programme.

The historical syndicalist tendency in the American labor movement generally finds its home in the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), which in its earliest origins, operated primarily as a class organization determined to organize workers by the (novel at the time) concept of “industrial unionism” as opposed to what they saw as the divisive separation of craft unionism used by the American Federation of Labor (AFL). In their famous constitutional preamble they outline the diverging interests of the working class from the employing class and call for far more radical goals than the AFL, such as the “abolition of the wage-system” and the end of capitalism.

As a reflexive reaction against the shameless collaboration between the AFL and the American capitalists, coupled with the revisionism of the reformist socialist parties of the Second International, the IWW pushed heavily in favor of “union democracy” instead of regime-union bureaucracy and strictly shed any political aspirations in order to pursue a strategy of winning practical demands for the working class while maintaining a political plurality of membership.

The IWW became renowned for its ability to organize massive strikes in a range of industries; not by using guerrilla war tactics like that of the mine workers in the later Coal Wars, but on the fundamental level of withholding labor en masse to disrupt the circuit of capital. The call for the “general strike” became a rallying point for the IWW, as shown by the 1911 pamphlet of the same name by notable wobbly and socialist Bill Haywood, which outlines the effectiveness of the general strike as “an effective weapon of the working class”. The IWW developed malleable tactics for deploying concise, effective strikes, knowing that the financial burden and eventual repression of the bourgeoisie would break any indefinite “siege”, and that success relies not necessarily on the length of the strike but on its precision to win demands.

While the modern IWW does not formally identify as an exclusively “syndicalist” organization, the struggle to either “give” or “abolish” the political character of the union seems to continuously doom it from two sides.

On one hand, it’s plagued by the rot of leftist inter-class opportunism that constantly seeks to utilize the class organizational structure to advocate for popular mass-activism (and as we know: “all activist psalms end in electoral glory”) or on

the other hand, by following strict syndicalist hostility to the necessary political struggle, the union begins to treat itself as a “revolutionary” political placeholder, becoming not only at odds with the class Party as a counter-revolutionary organization, but sacrifices the basic function of economic defense for workers in order to uphold a singular tendential strain within the IWW tradition over effective, centralized organizing to achieve its alleged radical ends.

Today, having been essentially replaced by the rise of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), the IWW still lives on with a quiet national presence and now organizes mostly small shops, fast food restaurants, and into decentralized local “branches” of labor activists that do not operate on any serious industrial level. The union, because of its more “radical” origins, naturally draws in the more combative and militant minded workers at periods where the necessity of well organized class defense becomes obvious, showing slight inflations or deflations in membership that correspond with the regular intervals of crises in the capitalist economy, which has always been a historical phenomenon of the organization. Ultimately, the weaknesses of the union eventually force some local branches that struggle to have significant influence on the mass of workers to de-charter due to lack of membership, when surely there is no lack of workers that need to organize.

It must be said that the organization of small shops to be able to mobilize a strike, as seen with the recent Urban Ore workers strike in the city of Berkeley, CA., still offer some level of organization to the various sectors of workers who otherwise would have few paths to organize themselves against the petty-bourgeois small business owners, bringing more workers into the broader organized class struggle and the IWWs promotion of general strikes towards class solidarity ends and their overall criticism of the “legal” path of bargaining through the NLRB still exist within the scattered vernacular of the modern IWW propaganda and offer at least a rhetorical alternative to the conservative AFL-CIO unions who still worship the NLRB as sacred doctrine, but the distance between words and action is immeasurable. Some IWW unions have even started including “No-strike Clauses” in their contracts, a tragedy that surely turns the old wobbles in their graves—showing that even the supposed “radical” unions are susceptible to basic economism without the direction of the communist programme.

As long as the syndicalist mentality prevails instead of the leadership of the class Party, as long as the tradition of “decentralization” among the IWW locals remains instead of a strong centralized class union that connects them with the militant trade unionists, the “One Big Union” will remain a minority of radical dreamers incapable of being a serious class force and is incapable of leading the working class to victory over the bourgeoisie, despite all its noble efforts.

### Only the Class Union and the Communist Party

As we workers approach International Workers’ Day, we celebrate not our wage-slavery, but prepare for our future. As much as May Day has become a historic symbol of the proletarian struggle, it is more importantly a continuous call for action, a continuous reminder that we workers have yet to wrestle ourselves from the chains of capital.

As long as there is capitalist domination, as long as there is a proletariat, communism remains not just a possibility, but a necessity for the end to the imperialist wars, the emancipation of the working class, and continuance of the species.

The prevailing conditions in the course of global capitalism, the horrors of imperialist wars and the growing economic demands weighing on the working class will bring decisive quantitative changes in the class struggle, but we maintain that there is no “mechanical process” that automatically connects the workers with their purely economic impulses to the necessary level of political struggle, or that the revolution can be “improved on the barricades.” Without adopting the communist programme, workers can only develop to a level of trade union consciousness which severely limits the field of class struggle to the bourgeois rules of order and only works to strengthen the bourgeois ideology among them.

The tasks at hand for building towards the general strike are still immense, and despite the calls from the opportunist business union leaders for the “return of the general strike” to be disposed of for their bourgeois reforms, the American proletariat must continuously work to wield such an action effectively for their immediate economic demands, but also organize towards the permanent end for the need of such demands, which requires an eventual violent struggle against the bourgeoisie guided by the leadership of the class party.

Workers! – Only the class union can effectively wield the general strike to fight for the international proletariat; by generalizing our struggle amongst the working people of all countries, by continuing uniting the majority of workers organized through the conservative trade unions with the minority of workers in the small “radical” unions into centralized, coordinated efforts, around definite economic demands that are fought with coordinated mass actions.

This is how the divisions of craft, industry, and nation can be overcome and the true general strike can become a reality—a true general strike that shakes off the parasitic collaborationists and opportunists, annihilates the national interests of the respective national bourgeoisies.

Only the Communist Party is the worthy champion of the proletariat, has studied the internal laws and contradictions of capitalism and its inevitable catastrophes, and is the only organization that can raise the hard limit of the trade-union struggle to the level of class political struggle and usher in the era of proletarian dictatorship.

## Artificial Intelligence

We are witnessing the production and use of “smart” weapons systems, drones that seek out and kill civilians.

We already see translators, technical support workers and call center workers left without work due to the introduction of automatic programs capable of replacing part of their work.

Much tougher struggles are needed on the field of class battle, of manual workers and even intellectuals, who are awak-

ening to this threat.

The Party must also be updated on the role of the most modern technology in the perpetuation of the bourgeois regime.

## Let Us be Clear With Words

Marx already taught us that science and intelligence are embodied in machines, the effective custodians of the ingenuity and work of past generations, an impersonal social heritage. Intelligence (which means "seeing inside") is always artificial. Only the petty bourgeois, the intellectual, believes in and claims his own, indefinable, individual intelligence. Because he tries to make a commodity out of it and make a living from it. So let's welcome artificial intelligence to take away from the bourgeois even this illusory boast of self-sufficiency.

It is an old story. Since the invention of writing we have done without tales to the young from old men of particularly good and rich memories. Since Pythagoras hung his Table on the wall, it was no longer necessary for anyone to remember that seven times eight equals fifty-six.

In a commercial titillation to individualism they called them Personal Computers: then it was discovered that not connected to the network they were useless. Intelligence is in the network.

There is no intelligence above classes. The intelligence of the working class is the Communist Party. Which is a group, disciplined to a purpose, a doctrine and an action, that goes beyond individuals, and that gathers the Communists of yesterday and today around the same historical program. Revolutionary intelligence arises from the historical need of Communism and is kept in the pages of our texts.

If any automatic sieve can help our hatred and contempt for this dying society and our passion for Communism to find more quickly in our vast library some precious dialectical shot to keep the theoretical bastions of the Party firm, welcome! The old mole, even in the field of data processing, always digs for the revolution.

Even the bourgeois will look for their quotes in their texts. Will a propaganda article soon be needed for the next war or for a chauvinist or racist campaign? They will ask artificial intelligence. But revolutions are not decided by propaganda. Otherwise there would never have been any in history, since the class in power has always had, with the monopoly of its class intelligence, today also artificial, infinite and much more pervasive means of indoctrination and falsification.

## The Old Monopolistic Capitalism

The technology sector, where companies like NVIDIA are currently making record profits thanks to the boom in so-called artificial intelligence, has long been dominated by monopolistic companies. But what some today call "techno-feudalism" is neither a new nor pre-bourgeois phenomenon.

For some time now, gigantic monopolies, especially American and Chinese, have been making disproportionate profits by imposing their tools, operating systems and applications, for the execution of intellectual work and calculations in general. Similar monopolies have also formed in the production of microprocessors.

These products are used by companies as fixed capital, or for personal consumption, paying a license for the use of an application or a fee for access to a cloud server and, tomorrow, to "artificial intelligence".

A high concentration has been achieved in advertising collection and mail order sales, with devastating consequences for the petty mercantile bourgeoisie.

Thanks to their monopolistic control of the markets, large companies such as Google, Amazon, etc. are able to set the prices of their services well above the cost of production. These large conglomerates can buy any competitor thanks to their enormous financial resources. The strength of this monopoly capital even allows them to operate for a certain period without profit, in order to crush their competitors. Before the end of the last century, all hardware and software production in European countries was eliminated.

So it is only rent from a monopoly. Monopolies that have been created, and are maintained against competitors, through the energetic protection of large imperial states. In the price of their software products, the majority is rent, almost no new surplus value.

This income is subtracted from the surplus value produced in all other countries of the world. An enormous flow of wealth that, for example, from Europe arrives in the United States under the heading of "services". Also to "solve" this dispute, the capitalists are preparing for war war.

Moreover, every monopoly is not absolute and unlimited. Around new scientific discoveries and new inventions, an economic war is fought between monopolies, old and new, within nations and between opposing blocs. For example, the announcement of the new Chinese application DeepSeek caused the US stock markets to collapse as soon as investors realized the fragility of the advantage that they thought the US maintained over its imperial competitors in China.

Taiwan has become a strategic semiconductor hub, but China is ramping up its capabilities in the sector, ironically spurred by the embargo imposed during the Biden administration.

In capitalism, not even technological progress brings peace. Instead, the global ramification of technological monopolies serves as an instrument of imperialist domination, and vice versa. Information technology services are an integral part of national and military infrastructures, while artificial intelligence is increasingly used in warfare. These technologies extend the influence of the main imperialist blocs in the contest between the productions of greatest strategic interest: energy sources and generation, semiconductors, as well as the personnel of technicians and scientists trained to build and maintain these systems.

## Will AI Save Capitalism?

Capitalists trust in artificial intelligence to stop, if not reverse, the decline of the rate of profit, especially in the old national industrialisms. They dream of a new "computer revolution" and talk about investing colossal sums in the sector. 500 billion dollars in the United States alone.

But the decline, or recovery, of capitalism is not a strictly technical fact nor of a particular sector of production. but rather

a general economic and historical one.

The productive euphoria of the decades following the Second World War and up to the crisis of 1975 was not ensured by the spread of the use and sale of cars, for example; on the contrary, the recovery was based on the reconstructions made necessary after the destruction of the war, which allowed, after a difficult decade, also the expansion of internal consumption. Since then the crisis has dragged on and has not precipitated not because of the "computer revolution" but because of the opening of the Asian markets. Today, these too are saturated.

True production is material. The demandability of the price of a good, of an immaterial commodity such as information technology, which does not have its own market value, understood as an average price for its social reproduction, depends only on the force that protects its monopoly. This is subject to the alternating events of relations between States and between groups of States, diplomatic and military weight.

How come Pythagoras, and his heirs, don't get paid by everyone who looks up at his Table? It is possible then that all this publicity that is being made about artificial intelligence will finally reveal itself to be just a bubble and at a certain point it will end up bursting, as it did with the Dot-coms.

Remember the huge post-war investments in the "space race", which also had military implications: not a single dollar was made. Today billionaires would like to go on a tourist trip to Mars: if only it were true!

## Dead Labor

Artificial intelligence, like all forms of automation used by capital since time immemorial, is "dead labor" incarnate. Man has worked to create these machines, subsequently these same machines, with the assistance of new workers or sometimes almost without any assistance, except for maintenance, carry out the jobs that had been done by artisans or more specialized workers.

This technical automation, although initially expensive to produce and develop, has great and revolutionary effects: it increases the productivity of labor; by requiring production on a larger scale it contributes to crises of overproduction; dead labor, exceeding living labor in value, induces a decrease in the rate of profit. It is a dynamic that culminates in the block of accumulation, which capital tries to resolve by increasing the rate of exploitation and, finally, through imperialist wars.

Capitalism does not enter into crisis because it lacks "intelligence"; it is the maximum capitalist intelligence, the one that best informs its development - in productivity, production, trade, etc. - that at the same time most quickly leads to the accumulation of contradictions that condemn it to explode. If artificial intelligence can do better than capitalists for capitalism, this will inevitably come closer to its ruin and, finally, communism.

## How it Works

Computer programs have long been used to perform all sorts of functions, including complex ones that were previously exclusive to the human mind, much faster than this one: calculators, programs that process large masses of numbers, and even playing chess!

But by artificial intelligence in particular we mean the large-scale linguistic models (LLMs) currently in use, which are able to process human language in a very similar way to how automatic sentence completion works, finding the most probable series of words that follow a given one. It took decades of study and experimentation to get to the LLM stage.

An important advance was the invention of "transformers", procedures that, instead of guessing the next word to propose one at a time, identify the important parts of the sentence, which are translated as a whole. The mathematical tool is the "neural networks", which are based on the calculation of the frequency of association between words: for "apple"-tree" we give 90, for "apple"-Newton" 5, for example. Obviously the combinations are a huge number, so very powerful computers are needed.

The possibilities for errors are evident: "Newton ate the apple" could put "intelligence" into crisis.

Then there is the much bigger problem of the reliability of the texts from which one copies. What appears statistically in Big Data, in the vast archives - generated by users, influenced by fashions and the dominant ideology - is not necessarily true. As far as we are concerned, the truth, and the Revolution, lies, on the contrary, in doubt, in paradox, in the denial of the obvious.

Furthermore, more and more texts in online archives will not be produced by scholars but by incompetents, if not by artificial intelligence itself, which can "short-circuit" models by making them collapse on themselves, producing truly absurd results.

## The Competition of Machines

The future will likely involve the use of language analysis to provide more reliable systems for tasks currently performed by men, who would be laid off. This type of automation will still lead to a reduction in wages, even for those involved in intellectual activities. It is already a reality that the recognition of copyright for one's work is denied. The Hollywood screenwriters' union fought to protect itself in 2023 and obtained some protections, but most of the workers affected by these applications are not members of a union. And many unions do not even seek protections in their contracts, having lost any class character.

Historically, workers have resisted the push of automation to de-skill and devalue labor. The Luddites were an embryonic form of this resistance. Today we say: let capital apply its innovations, but workers will still fight to maintain their living conditions.

## Turning the World Upside Down

Today, artificial intelligence already replaces the most repetitive jobs and is of assistance for some intellectual activities, but its applications are limited by the capitalist mode of production, which prevents any technique from being used rationally and for the benefit of all humanity.

The growing inability of capitalism to

support its slaves will drive the working class to organize against its dehumanizing effects and overthrow it worldwide. This will be possible when workers' solidarity and coordinated strikes against the bosses and their puppets, the most effective class weapons against the implacable depravity of capitalism, are revived. We can then, having traced the leadership of the Communist Party, go further and lead the fight in this class war for communism.

A future is expected in which capitalism will no longer exist, with the working class victorious throughout the world. We will then be able to employ these techniques, and the new extraordinary ones that brotherly humanity will be able to create, for the good and development of the human species.

## Temporary Civilisation Forever Chemicals

Year over year scientists continue to unearth various treasures from not only humans but the natural world's colored past. The physical remains of different organisms, long forgotten objects that range from painted vases to primitive tools, and periodically scientists even discover the remnants of our past social life. Roads, villages, cemeteries, and locations where humans practiced agriculture. Through these discoveries our species gets further access to worlds that may have been up to this point totally isolated from our collective memory. We are able to glean information on how our ancestors lived, related, and molded the world around them through their physical labor. Physical labor being a necessary part of the species existence is an unbroken link that connects modern man to his most ancient progenitors. These discoveries aren't solely important because they scratch an intellectual itch or our knowledge for our lost past. They are also a testament to the fact that our contemporary mode of production is not a universal or an eternal part of human societies no matter how much our dim witted enemies suggest otherwise. In tens of thousands of years what will these future scientists unearth from our current society? At the very minimum they are bound to find an abundance of chemical pollutants that our current crop of geniuses have dubbed "Forever Chemicals"

PFAS aka Forever Chemicals - Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances are synthetic chemical compounds that first appeared on the world market in 1938 with the invention of Teflon. PFAS are useful compounds that can make specific goods more resistant to heat, water, oil, and grease. They are used in the production of commodities across a plethora of different industries. These products range from food packaging to furniture, and even in personal cosmetics. They are in some form, involved in practically every industry across the globe. The utility of these chemicals is outshined though, by both their negative effect on human health but also their amazing ability to bioaccumulate.

Research since the 1970s has shown that PFAS over a certain threshold have a negative impact upon our bodies functioning. That includes higher rates of different cancers, lower fertility, and developmental defects in children amongst a myriad of other ill effects. One could imagine that in a "rational" society when these negative effects were found, persons would move mountains and rivers to stop the production of such an evident problem. Global capitalist society, and its constituents, is not a "rational" one though. Or at the very least its number one raison d'être is to accumulate, and at any social cost. If it can be profited upon no matter the deleterious effects it is accepted. The booming tobacco, alcohol, and drug trade is a wonderful example of this. While PFAS in an economic sense are not a significant part of global chemical production, they are still a profitable and useful one. The estimated profit margin sits at around 16%, and the percentage they make up of global chemical production is only .5%. Due to the necessity of a ROI (as the primary goal) imposed on enterprises within capitalist production our social web ignores the reality of harm done to both man and nature. This is happening day after day in our current world, and it has been a byproduct of capitalism since its very inception. For an example of the former let us give a quotation from Engels in his work on the Condition of the Working Class in England.

"Heaps of garbage and ashes lie in all directions, and the foul liquids emptied before the doors gather in stinking pools. Here live the poorest of the poor, the worst paid workers with thieves and the victims of prostitution indiscriminately huddled together, the majority Irish, or of Irish extraction, and those who have not yet sunk in the whirlpool of moral ruin which surrounds them, sinking daily deeper, losing daily more and more of their power to resist the demoralising influence of want, filth, and evil surroundings."

The conditions these workers found themselves within may have primarily been alleviated within the West but is still an everyday reality for the proletariat in the slums of Africa, and Asia.

For an example of the latter, ignoring the chemical pollution we are writing about in this very article. We need only reference the fact that since the 1970s the effect of capitalist production on the global climate has been quietly accepted by segments of the bourgeoisie. There is a very large contingent who wish to downplay or ignore these facts so as to prevent the interference of state actors in limiting their ability to accumulate freely. There is even a part of the bourgeoisie who knows that global temperatures are rising, and that this crisis will lead to crop failure, heat deaths, and masses of refugees but in the face of this exclaims this moment is going to be for the "Cooling" industry a profitable one!

"Morgan Stanley's climate forecast was tacked into a mundane research report on the future of air conditioning stocks, which it provided to clients on March 17. A 3 degree warming scenario, the analysts determined, could more than double the growth rate of the \$235 billion cooling market every year, from 3 percent to 7 percent until 2030."

What lucky profiteers. As we rush further into ecological devastation we are glad the bourgeoisie has something to look forward to.

Continuing the above on bioaccumulation, bioaccumulation is the term used to describe the process by which PFAS (amongst other compounds) become saturated in the "natural world". This accumulation can take place in the Earth itself

ie soil, the air we breathe, water systems, and the animals we consume to fuel our ever engulfing economy. Since these ingredients in our capitalist system are molecularly very stable they can accumulate readily over time. Of course, like all other physical matter there is a move towards deterioration but the effects on water supplies, food chains, and even the human body will be with us for a long while. Especially so with a society that is producing these and other pollutants that has no ability to seriously root them out. The estimated cost for the removal of PFAS from soil alone is in the trillions. Capitalist society is totally unable to take on this herculean task, and the species will only be able to seriously redress the damage done to ourselves and our planet when we have smashed private property, and subjected technology and production to the life plan of the species - Communism. Communism, a world historic movement arising from the very foundations of this crumbling society is "the real movement to abolish the present state of things". This movement is the only answer to the question of how humans can in an ever more effective way resolve the contradiction between man's existence and nature.

"This communism, as fully developed naturalism, equals humanism, and as fully developed humanism equals naturalism; it is the genuine resolution of the conflict between man and nature and between man and man"

To give the devil his due, there has been some push within the EU, and the USA to ban these chemicals but they have either targeted specific ones (which are readily replaced by a similar compound that isn't banned) or there has been an inability to seriously yank them out of the supply chain. We will see if PFAs will go the way of CFCs, leaded gasoline, or asbestos but tension between health, and profit will only cease when a revolutionary wave breaks the dam that is class society.

There is practically no place on Earth that is untouched with this pollution. PFAS have been found in the Arctic with the belief that migrating birds that are preyed upon are the culprit. Even if the polar bears ice caps aren't melting, they would still be infected with the toxic waste of capital.

From the Arctic to Minneapolis and Malaysia no one or no thing is safe from the "externalities" created by capital. Notwithstanding the fact that even with issues that affect all classes, the international proletariat takes the brunt of damage. From the workers that manufacture the chemicals to the ones who work in landfills where all our great works go to rot. Proletarians are the segment of humanity that are poisoned by these toxins more than their compatriots working on Wall Street, or at the local law firm. The workers who cannot afford to buy organic vegetables or "humanely" raised meat, or enough wages to purchase water filters that purify whatever filth comes out of their tap.

These chemicals do have a use within the pharmaceutical realm, and "green" technology. There are actual hard questions that have to be answered in our attempt to reproduce our existence as a species. We will have to use, produce, and consume things that do have a negative effect on the species health under a non class society. The issue at hand is that with the anarchy of capitalist production, it can not only not ask these questions on any serious terrain, its very nature doesn't allow it to answer them because the sole motivating force is profit.

This issue of social vs monetary cost is one that will be done away with in our future society. Under a centralized and rational mode of production humans will forgo the system that puts everything and everyone on a balance sheet. With its attempts to maximize profit and ignore the cost to the species. The rationality of the capitalist mode of production has it not only undermining itself within the process of production by being compelled to do away with its very source of profit - variable capital. It also has no issue with pillaging and polluting the world it exists upon in its unquenchable thirst for more. The communist struggle is the only hope for a future for an environment worth living in. A struggle that's existence is born out of the antagonisms within class society, and reaches its apex with a mass revolutionary movement and the International Communist Party at the helm. Only with the destruction of capitalist society, and the destruction of all classes as a social relationship will the "workers" of the future be able to breathe easily.

## FOR THE CLASS UNION

### Starbucks Workers Strikes in Chile

After 25 days, Chilean Starbucks workers (organized through Sindicato Starbucks) have ended their national strike against the US corporate giant, which has spread its tentacles into Latin America through the corporate shareholder, Alsea, that secures the interests of American fast-food industries from Mexico where its one of the largest foodservice providers.

It is approximated that 60 percent of Starbucks workers, across 170 different locations, participated in this historic strike. At its high point, workers were able to shut down 100 stores a day. The workers demanded higher wages, better conditions, and further protections against gender and LGBTQ+ biases and discriminations.

Sindicato Starbucks, founded in 2009, is the first unionized Starbucks in South America and one of the first in the world, seeing a huge boom in membership during the COVID 19 crisis and now represents over half of all Starbucks employees in Chile.

Facing relentless union-busting from Starbucks, they have fought for 16 years for better conditions and increases on their pitiful wages, winning some gains, but not enough to meet their basic needs as made evident by the demands of the recent strike.

The workers note that even a single cup of the cheapest coffee sold at their store among the countless that they produce on any average day cost more than what a worker makes for an hour in wages, reflecting the most obvious exploitation of their labor-power for the company's massive profits.

The recent 25 day strike comes 14 years after Sindicato Starbucks held the first ever strike against Starbucks in 2011 that lasted 30 days. Workers were demanding the very same things then:

higher wages, better conditions. However, the union decided to abide by Chilean labor law that tells workers that after 30 days they either "must" accept the last offer from the company, or postpone their strike for 18 months. Resolving to continue the strike in the form of a "hunger strike", they relinquished their actual strike power. Of course, the company did not offer a contract that was remotely close to the demands of the workers and the fight was lost.

Similarly, the recent strike comes just shy of the hard 30 day line in the sand made by the Chilean bourgeoisie and the union voted to pass a contract that fell quite short of a major win for the workers.

Compared to the poor leadership of Starbucks Workers United (SBWU), who can only muster up short, disconnected strikes that last a single day like the strikes of last December, a 30 day national strike that shut down over half of the stores in the country is certainly a more powerful action from the Chilean baristas.

However, the same issue remains for the two unions: playing the unfavorable game of the purely "legal" union struggle. In the case of SBWU, who have yet to win a contract, and are not even utilizing the full limits of the bourgeois NLRB; reducing their strikes to meaningless symbolic protests that appeal to strictly legal means to win the needed wage increases for the workers.

In the case of Sindicato Starbucks, the boss- knowing they ultimately have the last say on the contract as long as they take a dip in sales for a month of strike- has far more of an advantage over the poor workers who barely survive during a normal working week; forced to accept contracts that win minor wage increases that are greatly surpassed by inflation and are therefore actual decreases.

The only way forward for Starbucks workers to win economic concessions from the capitalists, is to join in building towards the class union and to mobilize towards national and international general strikes. The legal labor apparatuses, while offering supposed "rights" to workers, more realistically outline the boundaries of bourgeois subordination and are not designed to improve the lives of workers as much as they are to encourage peaceful wage-slavery.

Corporate giants like Starbucks only understand economic coercion, they are indifferent to the moral objections of a hunger strike as they regularly starve their employees worldwide through miserable wages. The Sindicato Starbucks has made great successes in organizing the Starbucks and fast-food workers of Chile, but their struggle for better conditions are lost without the militancy and support of the class union. If all baristas, organized nationally and internationally, were to strike for their common demands, both Sindicato Starbucks and SBWU could really put pressure on the company.

## Greece: Workers Take to the Streets Against the Massacres of Capital and For Generalized Wage Increases

On February 28th a general strike was held throughout Greece on the second anniversary of the 2023 Tempi railway disaster, in which 57 people lost their lives in a head-on collision between a goods train and a passenger train packed with young people returning from a short vacation.

During the strike, huge demonstrations took place in the main Greek cities, Athens, Thessaloniki and Patras, mobilizing hundreds of thousands of people. It is said that around one and a half million people participated throughout Greece, out of a population of only 11 million!

This huge participation was due to various reasons. Undoubtedly there is anger at what happened in Tempi, which was a massacre waiting to happen, caused by the lack of the most basic safety equipment and the increasingly onerous working conditions imposed on crews which had been reduced to a minimum. Despite complaints from the unions, the private company that manages the railways, an Italian company called Hellenic Train, has blatantly persisted in its policy of achieving maximum profit by cutting back on safety; a policy that is also being followed in Italy, Great Britain and other European countries.

Anger against the government is growing because it is increasingly evident that it is obstructing the search for those responsible, which may extend far beyond and be much more serious than it appeared in the days immediately following the disaster. The victims' relatives have ascertained that the government and Hellenic Train are collaborating to hide the real cause of the fire. It is very likely that the huge blaze that followed the impact was caused by the presence of undeclared explosive substances on the freight train, perhaps xylene. Xylene and similar substances are much cheaper than gasoline and are used to adulterate fuel, a profitable business for mafia organizations in league with the political and business world.

But it wasn't just the anger at the massacre and the lack of justice that drove hundreds of thousands of workers onto the streets. The general strike was seen as an opportunity to express their desire to fight against the employers and the State, against low wages, against precarious and insecure working conditions, against pensions that are too low, and against a health system that doesn't work and forces the proletariat to go without care.

## A Model Anti-Proletarian Democracy

Greece is a "model" European capitalism, their country of reference, and small enough to be used as a "laboratory experiment". During the debt crisis, the employers mercilessly blackmailed workers into either accepting jobs with extremely exploitative conditions or remaining unemployed. And that didn't change after the government budget crisis ended. In Greece young proletarians continue to work 40 or 50 hours a week for a salary of 700 or 800 euros, while the cost of living is almost the same as in countries where salaries are double or triple that amount. Retirees, who have seen their pensions cut by 40% from one day to the next, continue to get by on starvation pensions whereas, for Europe,



the Istanbul branch of DİSK Enerji-Sen called for a province-wide strike. The union's primary demand was to increase the "handout" wages imposed by the municipality. On February 28, the union made a press statement in front of the municipal İSKİ General Directorate and announced that they once again rejected the misery wage.

There are also reactions from Adana's Seyhan Municipality about the workers' unpaid wages. The Seyhan Municipality did not comply with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement it signed and paid the salaries, which should have been 55 thousand liras, as 35 thousand liras. In response to the underpayment of salaries, workers of Seyhan Municipality held a press statement on February 25 organized by DİSK Genel-İş.

In February, another clash against the rising cost of living and capital's austerity policies came from Eğitim-Sen, the teachers union. Eğitim-Sen made a statement on its official Twitter account and shared its union demands;

- Reduce the indirect tax rate on essential consumption items of working people to zero!

- All payments, including additional supplementary payments, should be added to the base salary!

- Abolish the interview for public sector jobs.

## Çayırhan Miners Resistance

On November 20, 2024, 500 miners in Çayırhan, a town near Ankara, locked themselves in the mine against the privatization decision. Bourgeois law is incapable of defending workers' rights. During the privatization process, the tender specifications did not include any clause that protects workers' rights; on top of that, it was demanded that the lodgings where the workers stay be vacated within 4 months. This caused a reaction among the workers.

The workers went underground with a steel will and determination; above ground, their protests received widespread support. The bourgeois state, which has nothing to fear more than the workers uniting and supporting each other, had its skirts on fire. The gendarme barricaded the workers who wanted to enter the mine. The workers decided to wait in front of the barricade until they entered the mine. Talih Kocabıyık, branch president of the Turkish Mine Workers Union affiliated to Türk-İş, said "it is a very profitable enterprise, that is probably why it is being privatized", but no explanation was given about the privatization decision.

The de facto strike launched by the workers partially yielded results within 10 days. The Privatization Administration decided to postpone the tender until March 4. The workers then took action again, chanting "Don't postpone, don't cheat, cancel the sale!"

In spite of everything, the workers managed to change the terms of the tender and won the right to employ 2050 minimum staff for 5 years and the right to live in the lodging house for one year even if the worker is dismissed.

Tender applications ended on March 4, 2025 at 18.00. Workers stated that they will keep their tents in the area in order to be prepared for situations that may cause them difficulties.

Maden-İş Çayırhan Branch President said that they will remain on watch until the tender process is finalized: "Today was the last day of bidding for 104 days. We have not received the results yet. As you know, nearly 50 of our friends have been underground for two days. We did not take the risk because of the health risk, we took our friends out. The struggle will continue here at the mouth of the mine. Our tent will continue here until the tender process takes a clear shape. In case we don't like it or in case it will put us in difficulty, our tent will remain here until Friday, provided that we are always ready in any way. We expect a clear announcement by Friday. Our struggle is not over, our struggle continues."

While Çayırhan workers are determinedly fighting for their rights, they are also expressing a nationalist reaction in favor of nationalization. Therefore, through the regime union Türkiye Maden İş, nationalist left and right opposition bourgeois parties that advocate partial state ownership against privatization have tried to intervene in the process. At this point, it should be emphasized again that under capitalism, state ownership and private ownership are essentially a legal distinction that does not change the nature of the enterprise and does not eliminate the relationship of exploitation.

## KFC and Pizza Hut

Following the end of the agreement between Yum Brands and İş Gıda, mass layoffs of workers have begun. While İlکم Şahin, who has investments in many sectors, says that he is bankrupt due to a debt of 7.7 billion, someone should remind Görkem Şahin that he said "I will not go bankrupt even if the state goes bankrupt". The company did not pay the last two months' salaries of its employees and "threw its workers out on the street" when the concordat was declared.

KFC workers believe that the layoffs were planned in advance. As the company was preparing to declare bankruptcy, the boss attempted to evade the workers' rights by putting his assets in his wife's name and attempting to divorce her. Even though it was known that a concordat would be declared, workers were kept working until the last day. They did not receive their salaries, they were not released from insurance on time, so that they would have to waive their right to compensation if they wanted to take another job.

This is the essence of the bourgeois judicial mechanism! İlکم Şahin is able to use the law to get away with mass layoffs by making workers work until the last day of their employment, and thus profit from it! After creating this mass victimization of workers (our so-called debt-ridden bourgeoisie!) buys a yacht for 50 million TL. They are blatantly making fun of the victimization of workers. The bourgeois state apparatus is one of the partners in this crime. Its laws protect the bourgeoisie and victimize the working class. Why don't these incidents reach the ears of those in the palaces? The bourgeois law and state have shown how meticulous they are in sending gendarme and police forces to workers' struggles. But when it comes to the workers (not surprisingly) it ignores the injustice!

The workers showed their reaction to

this situation by gathering in front of the company headquarters in Kavacık, Istanbul. At every opportunity the workers have been and are showing that they are determined in their struggle. The regime unions and some bourgeois left parties quickly "jumped in" to the protests in order to mislead the workers with bourgeois democratic rhetoric and to divert them from their path.

The protests are still going on and workers are calling out from the fields of resistance:

"We have kept silent and endured for 2 years, but enough is enough. We have worked overtime without taking leave, carrying heavy loads. This brand, which grew with our sweat, now condemns us to starvation. We know that this situation is not only happening to us. It can happen to all Yum Brands employees around the world. So we call out to Yum Brands workers all over the world. Wake up, stand up for your rights, don't be silent! If we act together, we can make our voices heard. Let's put a stop to this injustice by standing shoulder to shoulder together, let's make our voices heard all over the world."

The biggest weapon of the working class against international companies like Yum Brands is international strikes and resistance. Companies that try to achieve their growth targets by declaring bankruptcy and shifting their capital from one country to another seem to cover their moving costs with the unpaid wages of workers. Workers can protect themselves from this predatory global capitalism by protecting their self-organization, their unions. Forcing the unions to build international links and spread strikes and resistance to many enterprises will increase the workers' chances of winning.

## Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant

The Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant, which is being built in Mersin through the cooperation of Russian and Turkish capital, is an opportunity for national capital to achieve the glory of the "national economy" and a concentration camp for the working class.

Akkuyu has a total of 4 pressurized water reactors and the foundations for all four have been laid. While units 1 and 2 are under construction, construction of cells 3 and 4 has been halted by Rosatom and workers are being fired.

Akkuyu workers have to cope with poor working conditions, arbitrary dismissals and unpaid salaries! The bosses' arbitrariness is so precious that they leave 500 workers unemployed and don't need to give a reason. Not to mention the unpaid salaries since December 22nd!

"If so many workers were to be laid off in a short time, why were they hired? We are already crawling in shacks. We have no money and no right to work humanely. All we get is three pennies. We sleep in filthy places, food with filth in it is put in front of us. What for? We already work almost for free. And this treatment is really shameful." They add, "This is not a construction site, it's like a Nazi camp!" In the capitalist mode of production, production is carried out to maximize profit. Maximizing profit means exploiting surplus value as much as possible, that is, cutting workers' wages and making profit by cheapening even the most basic needs of workers. "I shot the video with my friends. They wouldn't believe me if I told them. I even sent some videos to those who didn't come to dinner that day. There is a shortage of food. The other day, used condoms were found in the yogurt at dinner. What kind of unscrupulousness is this?"

Unable to endure these inhumane working conditions, the workers began a work stoppage. The reaction of the bourgeoisie's bloody stick, the state, to the work stoppage is not surprising: sending gendarmes. Wherever there is a worker who seeks their rights, the bourgeois political order either forces them to cooperate with the state and puts them through legal barriers or, like the Akkuyu workers, tries to silence them. This is the reality of the rights, justice and law that the hypocritical bourgeois society treats us to.

It is only through the existence of class unions and a class party that workers can be liberated from the capitalist order!

## THE IMPERIALIST WAR

### Capitalism needs war

### *Only the revolutionary struggle of the working class can oppose it*

Trump's miserable statements, which European leaders are following, expose some of the lies and illusions propagated for decades by the bourgeoisies around the world, and by their right-wing and "left-wing" parties, to hide the ferocity of the world of capital, which now brings only death and destruction.

- International law is a fiction; it is the right of the strongest.

- In capitalism, war is an economic necessity; capitalism and peace are incompatible.

Trump is no smarter, stupider, or crazier than those who came before him. He merely reveals the true face of capitalism: this is the anonymous monster that threatens humanity! It's not Trump who holds power, but the industrial-financial complex, in the hands of the bourgeois class, which uses the machinery of the state to defend its interests. This is true for the United States and for all states in the world: all are bourgeois regimes against the working class. They are so regardless of the ideology and form of government they disguise themselves with: from "democracy" to false socialism, like that of China, or Venezuela, to the theocracy of the ayatollahs in Iran, or the "Jewish State" in Israel.

The bourgeoisie itself cannot "decide" anything because its policy is imposed on it by the economic crisis of overproduction in global capitalism. All national capitalisms and industrial sectors are under attack and overwhelmed by decades of overcapacity: Europe, the United States, China, and all the smaller bourgeoisies must flood the world with goods they cannot sell within their

national borders, thus colliding with their competitors.

The United States, as the world's largest capitalist system, is the most vulnerable to the economic crisis because it is increasingly difficult for it to maintain its global dominance. Today, the United States bourgeoisie must cut costs and pass the bill on to their "allies". They are revoking "humanitarian aid", which was once a useful instrument of international corruption. They are forced to strip the state apparatus of all "superfluous" resources (education, healthcare, social assistance), reducing it to its essence as a machine for oppressing the working class.

The policy being imposed today in the United States is not "isolationism", which, although in the interests of this national capitalism, would bring world peace. It is, instead, a different kind of shifting of US forces, concentrating them in the Indo-Pacific, a theater of primary strategic interest, to the detriment of the Atlantic and Europe. It serves to prepare for war against emerging Chinese imperialism, in a new division of world markets.

The imposition of tariffs on imports — which also partially harms American capitalism, but hurts competitors more — is a desperate policy, an economic-trade war that prepares for war with weapons. History repeats itself: the protectionism of all states preceded World War II. The new "golden age" promised by Trump will be one of tears and blood for the American working class, sacrificed to save the bourgeoisie's profits and social privilege, in preparation for war.

But it won't be the bourgeois regimes competing with the US that will save the global working class from the Third Imperialist War. A peaceful multipolar world under capitalism is just another lie.

Driven by the crisis, and increasingly unable to sell other goods, the bourgeoisie of all countries is throwing itself into the war industry. The drive toward rearmament is accelerating. The European Union, after decades of forcing workers to tighten their belts under the pretext of reducing debt, now claims to be willing to go into debt up to its neck to produce weapons! Beyond false ideological oppositions, all bourgeois states share an interest in investing enormous sums in war production to alleviate the crisis and prepare for war. For this reason, they all have a common interest in leading workers to war, convincing them that the enemy is not capitalism, starting with their own bourgeois regime, but an "enemy" alliance. To this end, it is essential to instill workers in nationalist ideology.

The European Union is not only reactionary, but also impossible —as Lenin asserted as early as 1915— because bourgeois states will never renounce their national interests. There is no such thing as European imperialism, but rather an alliance between certain European imperialisms: of the 800 billion euro rearmament plan over four years, 650 billion euro should be allocated to national armies. Nationalism—which today is called "sovereignty"—is only the other side of the ideological lie of the European Union. The "multipolar" Europe of "sovereignty" will be sucked into the vortex of the Third World Imperialist Conflict, as already occurred in the two world conflicts of the 20th century, under the pressure of the same economic and political determinants that are pushing the European Union to arm itself today. The anti-EU bourgeois parties that today cloak themselves in pacifism will tomorrow be as warmongering as the pro-EU parties and Trump are today.

The only force that can prevent war is that of the working class united across national borders, refusing to shed its blood in defense of the homeland. For workers, it makes no difference whether they are exploited and oppressed by their own national bourgeoisie or that of another country. But it is certainly preferable to fight their own social war, with powerful strikes, up to the point of revolution, against any bourgeoisie in power, national or foreign, rather than to die by the hundreds of thousands on the front lines of the war between capitalist states, on the battlefields, and under bombardment.

The authentic Communist Party desires and promotes the military defeat of its own bourgeois state in the imperialist war because it puts an end to the carnage of war, because proletarian defeatism on the home front, with strikes in factories and among soldiers, infects and united uniformed workers across the front lines, because military defeat weakens its own bourgeoisie and favors the revolution.

To prevent or halt imperialist war, the working class must be organized. This means organizing itself into strong class-based unions that unify workers' struggles in increasingly broad and powerful strikes aimed at defending wages and reducing the pace and length of the workday. These basic demands of the proletariat are in themselves unpatriotic because they damage national capitalism and its competitiveness.

Defending your economic interests today through union struggle means already being on the path that will lead you to defend your political interests tomorrow, opposing militarism and the war of the bourgeoisie.

We can expect the official trade union federations of all countries, aligning themselves with their bourgeois bosses in each country, raising the anti-proletarian banners of nationalism and multipolar capitalism, to lead the workers to the slaughterhouse of inter-imperialist world war and the bourgeois dispute over territories and borders.

Combative trade unionism, to rebuild the strength of the working-class trade union movement and free workers from the control of the regime's unions, must act unitedly in struggles across all categories, to strengthen and unify them, and to promote the struggle against war for the international unity of workers.

- Solidarity among workers of all countries!  
- Against all Fatherlands!  
- Class war against imperialist war!

## Proletarian Defeatism in Gaza

The proletarians of Gaza took to the streets by the thousands in what were the first mass demonstrations since October 7, 2023.

And they didn't do it by chanting for the war against Israel, for the Axis of the Resistance, aiming for martyrdom for a "Palestine free from the Jordan to the sea", but by shouting "Hamas out", and asking for the end of the war.

The proletariat and disinherited masses of Gaza did indeed mobilize, but against the war, which was wanted and sought after by both Hamas and the Israeli bourgeoisie state.

The demonstrations began last Tuesday, March 26th, in the north of the Strip, in Beit Lahia, one of the towns most devastated by the war, with a few hundred participants. The following day they grew in size and spread not only to Jabilya — also in the north — but also to the Shejaiya and Zeitoun neighborhoods of Gaza City, respectively to the east and southwest of the city, and to the Nuseirat refugee camp, in the center of the Strip. Only three days later, on Thursday, did they decrease in intensity.

One of the most significant aspects, besides the slogans against Hamas and for an end to the war, is that not even a Palestinian flag was waved, only some white flags.

The proletariat of Gaza, who defied the ferocious repression to take to the streets, shows that their support for Hamas and the war is only propaganda.

In the report on the war in Gaza and the Middle East at the general meeting last January, in this issue published in full, we wrote "now that the Israeli bombs are temporarily no longer raining down, it will not be easy for Hamas to maintain control over 2 million 300 thousand people, in the conditions to which the war has reduced them".

This prediction has been confirmed: peace has been restored after 15 months of massacres, but when the bombings started again thousands of workers said "enough is enough" and preferred to risk dying at the hands of Hamas rather than die under the bombs.

The funeral of a young man, whose family members accuse Hamas militants of having tortured and killed him in response to his participation in the demonstrations of the previous days, became a small procession, and 6 other Palestinians were allegedly executed on charges of collaboration.

On the other side of the conflict, in Israel, the end of the truce, which lasted only two months, has given new strength to the anti-war movement, and there are once again tens of thousands of demonstrators protesting against the Netanyahu government.

The words of an article published on March 27th in Haaretz are worth sharing: "These protests are not only courageous. They are deeply moving. They represent the real victims of this war: alongside the Israeli hostages and the victims of the massacre, these are the civilians whose suffering has gone unheard. They also challenge Israel's extremist government directly: any continued attacks on civilians who are calling for peace will expose the fact that this is not self-defense."

Again in Haaretz, March 28: "The Israeli Defense Forces warn that a crisis is developing in the reserves due to plans to intensify fighting in the Strip (...) Dozens of reservists announce that they will not report for duty (...) struggle to report for further calls not only for political reasons, but also because they are simply tired."

In fact, on both sides of the war front, large sections of the population are fighting against their respective governments and against the continuation of the conflict.

The demonstrations in Gaza can only strengthen those in Israel, because they weaken the Israeli warmongering propaganda that wants all Palestinians to be Hamas supporters. The breaking of the leaden cloak of the bourgeois regime in Gaza can only favor the growth of awareness that even in Israel there is a social force that opposes Israeli imperialist policy.

The two movements are in fact allies. What is needed is a political party whose program includes the vital necessity of the working class to oppose the war by fighting its own bourgeois regime, united with the workers of other countries. This is the party of international communism, necessary for the international union of the working class.

In every country, the trade union movement must be guided by the principle of an uncompromising struggle to defend the living conditions of the workers, without taking on the task of defending the economy of national capitalism, and in the future, defending it militarily.

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The propaganda of the bourgeoisie that supports Hamas, not being able to deny the demonstrations, has minimized their size and claimed they were provoked by opposing parties that collaborate with Israel.

Opportunism throughout the world has endorsed and spread this warmongering anti-proletarian propaganda — as it has done throughout the conflict.

An example of the opportunist arguments used to defend Hamas and support the continuation of the imperialist war, presented as "revolutionary", is the article published by the political group that directs the SI Cobas grassroots union in Italy, which reads: "In the last year, Hamas has recruited about 15,000 new fighters, rebuilding part of its military and administrative infrastructure and maintaining firm control over the Gaza Strip. This level of organization and support would not be possible without significant support from the local population." What is clearly missing is the fact that in the Gaza Strip, joining the Hamas military apparatus is almost the only way to feed one's family.

If the demonstrations were promoted by anti-Hamas parties, the fact that thousands of people participated means that the demands — out with Hamas and an end to the war — are shared by the majority of the population. On the other hand, there is no reason why the bourgeois parties opposed to Hamas shouldn't promote such demonstrations.

In reality, all the Palestinian bourgeois parties have an interest in preventing the proletariat from mobilizing. Even in the event of Hamas being removed from power, the proletariat would find itself fighting for its living conditions. This is to the chagrin of all the opportunists who describe the conflict between Hamas and Israel as a "revolutionary war" of the Palestinian masses instead of a war between opposing imperialist fronts — Israel, USA and European imperialists against Hamas, Iran, Qatar, China.

## LIFE OF THE PARTY

Alongside our regular sectional meetings in April the Party held its interim international organizational meeting

meeting confirms and feeds our enthusiasm as communists who realize their communist sentiment in the party of communism. The work, the exchange of advice and guidance, our ability to carry out this activity overcoming linguistic and geographical divisions, continues to improve, making us more and more an international (communist) party in fact, operationally, as well as in ambition.

## Interventions in the Unions and on the Streets

For March 8th, the comrades working on women's issues prepared the party's international manifesto, translated it into 10 languages. For International Women's Day, comrades in Pennsylvania and Illinois distributed Party leaflets, the latter at an event organized by a local coalition of labor unions. Papers were distributed in Chicago while militants intervened in a march condemning the actions of U.S. imperialism in Gaza. In Virginia Party militants intervened with our press in large demonstrations against the new bourgeois administration organized by opportunists groups but that attracted many beyond it. Additionally the paper was distributed at multiple events opposing the forced mass deportations of immigrant laborers happening in the US in Oregon.

Party militants continue work in the Class Struggle Action Network where an online event putting forward the necessity for generalized strike action and class unionism featuring union militants from across the world will be held on April 27th. One Party militant in the National Education Association (NEA) recently put forward a resolution at a state level regional assembly for organizing the 3 million unionists to join the potential May Day 2028 General strike was narrowly defeated by a vote of 242 to 244 delegates representing 44,000 union members. In March and April, Comrades distributed our press at the statewide indefinite nurses strike in Oregon that lasted 40+ days. Comrades distributed our press at the Build a Fighting NALC (BFN) postal national day of action in New Mexico and in Oregon.

In Italy, comrades distributed the leaflet in Rome and Genoa at two demonstrations in March and April against the rearmament and war: one organized by the USB grassroots union, the other organized by a bourgeois party that in Italy now poses as a pacifist, with a large turnout, around 50 thousand demonstrators; this second demonstration attracted a participation that went far beyond that of the members of the bourgeois party that organized it.

## Our Mourning - Raimondo

Raimondo said that we should not talk about him personally but only remind everyone of the great cause for which he dedicated his life, unfortunately cut short too soon.

In fact, Raimondo has been a militant, since he was very young, and ever since then, in the party of international communism, in our party.

Obeying his desire, therefore, we do not recall here his uncommon qualities, of sensitivity, the lively intelligence in his eyes and the patient smile, of someone who knows how to understand men and situations, before intervening with affectionate firmness, respectful towards all.

This is another lesson he leaves us. You can't talk about a communist without talking about communism. And Raimondo in particular can be remembered truly, fully, faithfully, only within his, and our, need for communism.

It is individualism that mortifies and deforms the individual. Raimondo told us do not speak of me, because by speaking only of him we would have betrayed him.

We overcome personalization not to deny the individual but to exalt him, to free him in a strengthened and dense network of relationships. A man is made by his relationships with others. He cannot be defined otherwise.

Raimondo lived, realized and satisfied that need for relationships with all men and things in the world. And a communist is a communist always, in all the concrete, daily events of life. Not only in dreams or in an aspiration or, worse, in nostalgia, a regret, or just a ritual.

And this is possible because a communist sees what others cannot see, blinded by the smoke bombs of this society and deafened by the inappropriate screams of the monkeys with which they represent all the bloodthirsty states of the world.

Every man, more or less consciously, feels the need for what he knows can and should be an indistinct better world, and suffers from the abuses on the majority of humanity, which he calls injustices, imposed for the selfish interests of a tiny minority, and from the absurdities, wastes, sufferings, mourning and massacres that are imposed on them. Religions suffocate this need by sending it back to an otherworldly world.

But in this increasingly tormented earthly world the communist sees and feels that communism is already there. It is not the will of the communists but capitalism itself that progressively demolishes all its material and ideal presuppositions and foundations. All our real life is materially ready for communism, even if men cannot know it and only dream. But man dreams as much as he can dream, what is already within reach.

We will not say that Raimondo did not have time to see communism. Instead, he saw it. And he saw it completely because he fought for communism together with his companions.

Because of his great tranquility, Raimondo has never shown impatience, which is a weakness of individualism. What we have not been able to understand and do, those who come after us will do. And if not here, they will start in other countries and continents. Communists are never in a hurry.

This patient preparation, carried out according to a plan and continuity of practical attitudes, day after day, year after year, generation of militants one after the other, is it not already communism? The negation of envy, disorder, the contingent and the expedients of capital?

Of course this is not enough to console us. Life has these wounds. That network that closely connected Raimondo to all of us has been torn, and we all suffer

and feel great pain. We must now re-tie that network, made of affections and memories, to pass on his life lessons to the young and to those who will come.

## General Meeting

### General Party Meeting 25-26 January 2025 [RG151]

Capitalism in mortal crisis that shows its ferocious face of national egoisms, exterminations and destructions is opposed by the revolutionary Program of Communism

We held our international general meeting on January 25th and 26th, with a broad representation of all our groups in attendance. It was held via teleconference. Where we have territorial sections we assist you from the same location. As usual we have provided a complete translation of all the interventions and reports in our three current languages, Italian, English and Spanish. The meeting opened with a report from the centre which took stock of the development of the party's tasks over the past year.

Part of these functions is the defense of the organic nature of the internal relationships between militants. This module - which is not simply organizational but of communist sentiments and collaboration, in accordance with our usual repugnance for everything that smacks of bourgeois - has already given excellent proof in its effective application for at least six decades now, allowing the small party to carry out admirably the tasks that the external situation assigns to it, to the extent possible: from the defense of the program and of Marxist science to the firm search for contact with the working class and its battles, from which, ultimately, we derive our reason for being and, in a historical integral, all our strength and certainty.

With the spread of our minimal organization outside of Italy we have been able to happily verify that those organic modules are naturally applicable to young comrades and distant sections, who recognize them as appropriate and necessary to the communist militia and well allow for harmony and common work. We can already see in this the confirmation of our prediction of the functioning of the future reborn communist party well rooted in the world working class.

A unity of movement resulting from a close impersonal, collaborative and non-conflictual work between comrades and groups. We do not rely on individuals, not even those who are possibly more competent and expert, but on the effort of elaboration of a collective body that seeks in the doctrine and in the past the way to the future. A search, a continuous theoretical and experiential refinement, as if today's communists and all those who preceded us were sitting at the same table.

The party is also the result of its own lessons. The living party is always reborn "more equal" to itself, confirmed and strengthened in its convictions. Not with a license to innovate, that the doctrine was established once and for all at its birth, on the contrary, always more faithful and conscious of what we have always been. Other tests await the party, in these times of approaching the catastrophe of capitalism, which will renew its desperate attacks against the revolution and against communism, and against the communists. Not for this reason will we adopt in the party the methods of our enemies.

Today it is enough for us to give continuity to the studies in the various fields of investigation, their presentation to the party and to the class in propaganda and in publication in the press, as well as to continue our always difficult and very demanding serious battle in the unions and among the workers' struggles. The current minimal growth of the organization calls us to new commitments and new work, in a comprehensive vision of the party's needs and activities. The new comrades who arrive are encouraged, trained and helped to tackle every topic and task that the life of the party requires. As Lenin writes, a true centralization of the party, not a formal one, requires maximum decentralization, the harmonious distribution of its various responsibilities.

These are the reports heard in the two sessions of the meeting:

The grueling proxy war in Syria has already been published in the previous issue of this newspaper. We immediately provide here some brief summaries for the use of readers, referring the full publication to our magazines "Comunismo" and "Communism".

## The Imperialist War in the Middle East: Today's Vanquished - Tomorrow's Winners

The report to the meeting denounced how already at the end of January the truce was proving fragile. The Israeli state, a long arm of the US war machine, fought on seven fronts: in Gaza, in Lebanon against Hezbollah, in Syria and Iraq against pro-Iranian militias, against the Houthis in Yemen, against Iran, and finally against the armed groups of Hamas and the IPJ in the West Bank.

In this broad framework, the war fought in these 15 months by Israel has been a success. Hezbollah, militarily much more powerful than Hamas, has been greatly weakened, with a considerable part of its leadership physically eliminated, with its logistical structures in southern Lebanon largely destroyed and with equally heavy blows inflicted along the Beqa' Valley and in the Shiite neighborhoods of Beirut. This forced Hezbollah into a truce on November 27, with Israel's right to strike Hezbollah if they do not retreat north of the Litani River, a right which Israel has exercised with near-daily targeted bombings.

Not even a week later, the advance of the Sunni militias organized by Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) began in Syria, conquering Aleppo on December 2 and taking Damascus on December 8, deposing the Assads in power since 1971. This led to the breaking of the so-called "Shiite corridor", which from Iran passed through Iraq and Syria to Lebanon, supplying Hezbollah with weapons, and to the flight from Syria of the pro-Iranian militias, who retreated to Iraq. This was a second heavy blow to the Iranian regime and its ambitions in the region.

The only things left to distract Israeli forces from the conflict in Gaza are the pro-Iranian militias in Iraq and the Houthis in Yemen. Indeed, after the fall of Assad in Syria on December 8, Israel launched a wave of bombings against the military facilities of the Syrian Arab Army (SAA), the regular Syrian army, almost completely destroying all of its air, anti-aircraft and naval forces.

The fall of Assad has favored Turkish imperialism, which with the Syrian National Army - financed, supplied and trained by Ankara - acts in the Northwest of Syria fighting the Kurdish forces of the Democratic Union Party (PYD), the Syrian branch of the PKK, who lead the Syrian Democratic Forces, a Sunni Arab minority. The Kurds control the area east of the Euphrates, the richest in oil and agricultural products, and limited parts in the North. The Syrian Kurds had a non-hostile relationship with the Assad regime, which granted them substantial autonomy.

The strengthening of Turkish imperialism in Syria has led the PYD leadership to seek an alliance with the Israeli regime. It is worth noting how little questions of principle are worth to bourgeois regimes and parties, which they use to justify their wars. The Israeli regime denounces Kurdish national oppression while perpetuating Palestinian oppression in a sea of blood. At the same time, Kurdish nationalist parties ally themselves with the two imperialisms - the US and Israel - primarily responsible for a national oppression identical to that which they have suffered. On the other hand, there is no solidarity between oppressed national minorities, even if they are so geographically close. From the moment that national struggles no longer have any progressive historical function, nationalist parties become only puppets of the imperial powers.

The bourgeois ideological justifications are worthless. The United States considers the PKK a terrorist organization, but not the PYD, the Syrian branch of the same party, supported by the USA. The HTS was also defined by the United States and the European Union as a terrorist organization but, through Ukrainian military aid, they were supported by the United States, finally recognized in power by all Western countries. Russian imperialism had to evacuate from Syria a large part of its armed forces - land, air and naval - and probably also the naval bases of Tartus and Chmejmim air base. For Moscow, the loss of these bases in Syria would represent a hard blow, losing for it a logistical-operational hub in the Eastern Mediterranean, which was needed for the Russian imperialist projection towards Africa.

The reaction to the setbacks suffered by Iran and Russia was the signing on January 17 of a "comprehensive strategic partnership treaty" between the two countries. However, Israel enjoyed almost unlimited access to Syrian airspace coordinated with the Russian command.

In Gaza, however, the outcome cannot be said to be equally in favor of Israel. Although about 20,000 militants from Hamas and other Palestinian nationalist parties have died in the 15 months of fighting and their military strength has been greatly reduced, the Israeli government's proclaimed goal of destroying Hamas and preventing it from maintaining power in the Gaza Strip has not been achieved.

Hamas said in the days following the truce that the deployment of its militiamen and police was intended to "prevent a power vacuum and chaos, to ensure public order despite the devastation" and that it "managed to restore all police stations in the Strip to normal operation." On Thursday, January 23, the Hamas Interior Ministry announced that its men were facing attacks on food trucks by "criminal gangs." It is likely that they are criminal groups, but also the starving population. This puts at risk the gains of Hamas and its control over the population.

Now that the Israeli bombs are temporarily no longer raining down, it will not be easy for Hamas to maintain control over 2.3 million people, in the conditions to which the war has reduced them. We must believe the reports that Hamas continues to recruit many young people and very young people, full of hatred and anger for the massacres and destruction carried out by Israel. But there is no doubt that among the population there is also discontent towards Hamas that dragged the Gazans into a ruinous war. Furthermore, being a militiaman provides a source of income in a destroyed economy.

Hamas' show of force is therefore not only directed against Israel but also against the proletariat and the dispossessed of Gaza, to warn them that any uprising will be responded to with lead from those well-dressed and armed policemen and militiamen. Even for the Israeli bourgeois state, on the one hand, having signed a truce with Hamas means admitting that it has not achieved the proclaimed objective of the war, on the other hand it allows it to maintain a state of emergency within the country, of impending war, necessary to control the Israeli working class.

The sold-out Israeli bourgeoisie propagates the lie that all Palestinians are with Hamas, just as, on the other side, the Palestinian bourgeois parties inculcate the idea that all Israeli workers consent to the extermination of the Palestinians and that therefore there can be no proletarian solidarity above the front. Therefore, the objective of destroying Hamas, in addition to being very difficult to achieve, is not even desirable for the Israeli bourgeoisie.

The roots of Hamas are the funding of the regional powers that support it and the dispossessed and Palestinian sub-proletarians who enlist in its militias. To destroy Hamas, bombings from the sky are not enough and more men on the ground would be needed. This is not sustainable for an army armed to the teeth, thanks to donations from US imperialism, but which already shows signs of crisis, being able to count on a population of only 8 million Israeli Jewish citizens, with a daily drip of victims.

Even if militarily annihilated, Hamas' lifeblood would spawn a similar party.

Then there is the demographic question. A "Greater Israel" that includes the West Bank and Gaza would have a population that is 50% Arab-Palestinian. Capitalism in its youthful and progressive phase would aspire to overcome ethnic and religious divisions in the nation, with economic growth and with radical positive structural reforms. Capitalism in its senile, imperialist phase, closes itself in racism, in the oppression of minorities. In Israel, in the "Jewish State". For the "Palestinian question" therefore the bourgeoisie Israeli

state has no solution. On the other hand, the proclamations for the "destruction of Israel" by Hamas serve to keep Israeli workers terrified and to seek protection in their state, which will lead them to massacre.

This is why Israel has supported Hamas financially for years and more recently accepted that Qatar would increase its funding. This is why today it rejects any plan to entrust political control to the Palestinian National Authority, which holds it in the West Bank: because saying "no" to the PA in Gaza is equivalent to saying "yes" to Hamas. The "solution" that capitalism has to offer to the Israeli and Palestinian proletariat is a general conflict, a third world war. In it, it will be possible, through ethnic cleansing and genocide, to capitalistically "resolve" this age-old conflict, either with "Greater Israel" or with "free Palestine from the Jordan to the sea," according to the imperialist front that would emerge victorious.

In any case, it would be the proletariat that would be defeated once again, on both sides of the front, united even in defeat because its condition is unique. In Iran, strikes multiplied at the end of the year and in the first months of January. The national currency continues to devalue and inflation continues to grow. If the regime of the ayatollahs were to fall under the blows of the working class fighting the Israeli bourgeois regime, the "external enemy" that supports its internal front would disappear. Both among the Palestinians and the Israelis, the nationalist and warmongering parties would weaken.

It is true that both sides of this war can be considered winners, because the real loser is the proletariat, of Gaza, of Israel and of the entire Middle East. A truce desired and decided by the bourgeois forces that wanted the war, not determined by the rebellion of the proletarian masses on one or both sides of the front, is only a pause while waiting for the resumption of the conflict. But it is also true that all bourgeoisies and their states are intrinsically weak, threatened by the economic and social crisis of capitalism that advances and deepens every day, and that they cannot avoid. They are all historically already defeated because to save themselves they have nothing to offer but death and destruction, the devastation of Gaza and the rest of the world. The proletariat, defeated in every conflict that begins and is consumed to the end, is the problem that capitalism cannot solve and that, when, due to material determinations, it will inevitably reconnect with its party overcoming 100 years of counter-revolution, will be the death for all the war machines of capital.

## The Grueling Massacre in Ukraine

The slow advance of Russian troops continued both on the southern front of Donetsk and in the Kursk region of Russia. The four regions of Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhia and Kherson annexed by Russia with the referendums called in September 2022 are not yet fully under Russian military control, apart from Luhansk. They are included, together with Crimea, in the territorial claims that Moscow has always set as a precondition for negotiating an agreement.

In Donetsk, a powerful defense system built over years must be conquered meter by meter. The Russian strategy seems to be to force the Ukrainians to mass troops at certain points on the front where they can be hit by aircraft or artillery. On the diplomatic front, Russia does not seem interested in quickly reaching a ceasefire. The situation of the Ukrainian armed forces, hit by tens of thousands of desertions, uncertainty about military supplies, a shortage of ammunition and a minimal air force, opens the way to new successes for Moscow, which must justify to the proletariat the tens of thousands of deaths and economic damage caused by this conflict.

Russia also demands the demilitarization of what remains of the Ukrainian state and an assurance that Ukraine will remain outside of NATO.

The recent strategic agreement with Iran has strengthened Russia's international position, although the military alliance has precise limits and does not go so far as to foresee that if one of the two signatories is attacked by a third state the other is obliged to intervene.

During the election campaign, Trump, in contrast to the prevailing "isolationist" ideas about abandoning Kiev to its fate, had his national security adviser state that the new administration would push Ukraine to "lower the mobilization age to 18 to attract hundreds of thousands of new troops," thus continuing the war "to the last Ukrainian."

The leaders of the European Union and NATO insist on their decision to help Kiev "until victory" with the reconquest of the territories currently occupied by Russia. They even intend to continue supporting Ukraine even if the United States were to stop doing so. "If we do nothing, Russia could attack us," the warmongers representing the European Union shout in chorus, to mask their common interest in the profits of the arms industries. Currently, the United States supplies 70% of the weapons to the European NATO states.

There is also an agreement with NATO leaders for member states to increase spending on weapons to 5% of GDP, which would be more than double the current level. There are even threats of risky unilateral decisions to send military contingents from some NATO countries to fight in Ukraine.

The European states, on the other hand, risk being cut out of any peace negotiations because the US president has already announced that he is ready to get rid of them and deal directly with Putin, without giving the European states, as always, a say in the matter. On the other hand, the famous sanctions against Russia are bringing the European industrial apparatus to its knees rather than the Russian economy, which has found other buyers on the world market.

Of course, there is no single position among the 27 states of the Union that pursue different and even contrasting policies. France has adopted a hard-line military response, recently calling for the direct involvement of the Atlantic Alliance in the conflict, and has lifted restrictions on the use of its SCALP cruise missiles to strike Russian territory. Poland also hoped for direct involvement in the conflict and has been undertaking a bold rearmament plan for several years now, with major

purchases from the United States and South Korea, and plans to allocate 4.7% of its state budget to defense next year. The German government, now out of office, has taken an intermediate position, sending significant military aid to Kiev but preventing the use of its long-range Taurus missiles inside Russia. Italy continues to send weapons and aid to Kiev but has always declared itself decidedly against sending troops to Ukrainian territory. The United Kingdom declares itself ready for a direct confrontation with Moscow and authorizes the use of cruise missiles against Russia. The new Labour government, in perfect continuity with the previous Conservative one, has signed a "one hundred year collaboration" pact with the Ukrainian government that would even include the possibility of installing military bases in the country. But military circles point out that Her Majesty's Armed Forces have never been so weak since the Napoleonic era.

In these power games the Ukrainian state has no role, it depends entirely on its "protectors" in Washington. This subservience to the government of the "beggar" Zelensky, as Trump called him, is proven by the role of the Kiev secret services in supporting the advance of the rebels who overthrew the Assad regime in Syria, alongside the United States that protected and supported them.

The numerical consistency of the armies is a problem that the war in Ukraine is posing to all the General Staffs of Europe. Professional armies, composed of tens of thousands of specialists, are not suited to fighting the war that is being prepared. It will be necessary to mobilize hundreds of thousands, millions of proletarians to be deployed as cannon fodder. Many states are already preparing to reintroduce compulsory military service.

What is emerging, therefore, despite the propaganda talk about the possibility of peace, is a prolongation of this war for a long time to come.

The proletarians of Ukraine and Russia, already tested by years of war, subjected to the iron heel of corrupt and warmongering governments, could rebel against a new demand to shed their blood and impose on the States their peace, the only possible one, overthrowing the regime of capital as the Russian proletariat did in October 1917. Only the proletariat fighting for communism will be able to put an end to the state of permanent war, misery and hunger, uncertainty and terror of tomorrow into which the capitalist regime, in full crisis, not only economic and ideological, but tomorrow social and political, has brought all humanity.

## Origins of the Communist Party of China

### 8. Submission to the Kuomintang

The Second Congress of the Communist Party of China (PCC) was held in Shanghai in July 1922 with nine delegates representing the 123 party members. The documents of the Congress analyzed the political and international situation of China, with a focus on imperialism and the fight against foreign aggression. It emphasized the internal division of China, characterized by the presence of warlords and civil war, which prevented the unity of the country.

A comprador bourgeoisie acted as an intermediary between foreign capital and the Chinese economy. The impoverished peasantry represented the largest force in the revolution, but it could only be achieved in alliance with the working class. The Congress argued that China was in a transitional stage between feudalism and capitalism, and that the Chinese bourgeoisie should fight against feudalism, with the proletariat allying with the peasantry to lead the revolution. However, the documents lacked a clear vision regarding the role of social classes in the revolution, leaving open a possible interpretation towards a "revolution by stages", like that theorized in Russia by the Mensheviks.

The PCdC decided to join other revolutionary forces, including the Kuomintang, but trying to maintain the independence of the proletariat. A "Democratic Alliance" was also proposed that would unite various groups, but the initiative did not find approval from the Kuomintang and was abandoned. Work in the labor movement remained the main goal of the PCdC, which sought to promote the independent organization of the working class.

Furthermore, internal disagreements emerged over party centralization, with a pro-democracy tendency led by Li Hanjun opposing the centralized vision of the PCdC. Li advocated a less centralized party that was more focused on promoting communism among intellectuals, a vision that was supported by Maring because of his openness to the Kuomintang.

The Second Congress of the PCdC in 1922 accepted the directives of the Second Congress of the Communist International regarding the national and colonial question, but divisions persisted over the tactics to be adopted towards the national-revolutionary movement, in particular over cooperation with the Kuomintang (KMT). Although Maring's proposal to form an "internal bloc" with the KMT was not adopted by the Congress, Maring obtained a green light from the Executive Committee of the Comintern (ECCI) for his line, which included the transfer of the PCdC headquarters to Canton and close cooperation with the KMT.

The ECCI approved some of Maring's recommendations, directing the Chinese Communists to work closely with him in Canton, where the KMT had strong influence. Although there was no official statement justifying the Communists' entry into the KMT, the ECCI provided guidelines regarding the KMT as a revolutionary organization, with the aim of supporting its "proletarian wing" and educating future ideologically independent members towards the CdC.

The ECCI instructions, while not explicitly endorsing Maring's line, reflected an ambiguous and opportunist approach, assuming that the PCdC had yet to be formed and that the Communists should support a wing of the KMT deemed to represent the "proletarian elements". The ECCI produced Instructions for the ECCI Representative in Southern China, which set out the line to be adopted by the Chinese Communists. This approach would lead to the advocacy of a "left wing" within the Chinese bourgeois party,

a position that would, in time, have negative implications for the revolution in China.

In mid-1922, the Communist International ordered the Chinese Communists to "organize Communist groups in the KMT," a proposal similar to Maring's that was quickly rejected by the CdC. To overcome internal opposition, Maring convened the Hangzhou Plenum on August 28-30, 1922, where, using the authority of the International, he succeeded in gaining the CdC's consent to the tactic of joining the KMT. This meeting marked the beginning of closer cooperation between the CdC and the KMT, with the Communists forming an "internal bloc" in the Nationalist Party.

The decision of the PCdC to join the KMT marked an important turning point: the Communists renounced their political and organizational independence and submitted to the discipline of the KMT. This process culminated in the Third Congress of the PCdC, when the Communists would finally hand over the leadership of the national revolution to the KMT. However, many Chinese Communists, such as Zhang Guotao and Cai Hesen, were opposed to this line, instead supporting the centrality of the workers' movement. But, despite the resistance, discipline prevailed in the International, and the PCdC leaders, although opposed, accepted the imposed line. Only the Secretariat of Labor continued to oppose it.

Opposition to Maring's policies was strong in the party and even detested by members of the Central Executive Committee. In order to strengthen his position, Maring suggested expanding it by adding members who were favorable to his line, such as Li Hanjun and Li Dazhao, representatives of the nationalist right. Thus, despite the resistance, the leadership of the CdC gradually moved towards a position favorable to joining the KMT.

Joining the KMT marked the beginning of a cooperation that would see the Communists participate in the reorganization of the Nationalist Party. Meanwhile, at the Fourth Congress of the International, possible Soviet military support was being discussed. The Chinese delegate Lin-Yen-Chin spoke of a "united front" with the KMT, with the idea that the Communists would join the party individually to strengthen the revolutionary influence.

This tactic of infiltration into the KMT, supported by the International and Maring, was fundamentally flawed, based on the illusion of being able to wrest influence from the Nationalists. Radek in his speech criticized the optimism of the Chinese delegates and emphasized the weakness of the revolutionary movement in China. He considered the situation still far from being favorable to socialism or a Soviet republic, and suggested that the task of the Communists was to focus on organizing the working class and establishing alliances with the revolutionary bourgeois forces to fight imperialism. Radek did not directly support Maring's tactics, but the reality of the PCdC entering the KMT at the individual level of militants condemned

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